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Arts

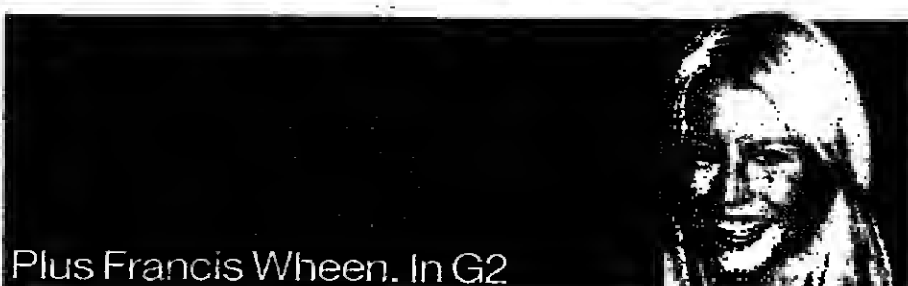
Wednesday
November 25 1998
Britain's newspaper
for Europe

The Guardian

EUROPE



Arts in G2, pages 10/11



Plus Francis Wheen. In G2



Society, G2 pages 12/13

New Labour . . . new Britain . . . old pomp

FOR Silver Stick in Waiting and the Gentleman Usher to the Sword of State it was a miserable day, writes Nicholas Watt.

Centuries of tradition were brought to an end when the Queen dispensed with their services yesterday in an attempt to slim down the State Opening of Parliament.

But the tourists who gathered at Westminster could have been forgiven for wondering whether anything had changed as they watched the ancient rituals.

Silver Stick in Waiting might have been left to sulk at home, but Gold Stick in Waiting, Maltravers Herald Extraordinary, Portcullis Pursuivant and other members of the College of Arms all hung on. As did the Sword of State.

The Queen's ladies-in-waiting were down by one, but the Mistress of Robes and the Lady of the Bedchamber remained at her side.

Photograph at yesterday's State Opening by Martin Argles



The Queen's speech

What's in

- Reform of the House of Lords
- Reform of disability benefits
- Widowers' pensions
- New tax credits for those on benefits and low pay
- A Disability Rights Commission
- New trade union rights
- Reducing the age of consent for homosexuals to 16
- Scrapping the NHS internal market
- Insurance companies to pay NHS costs of traffic accidents
- 'Contracts' for young offenders promising good behaviour; more protection to court witnesses
- Shake-up of legal aid
- Merger of the Contributions Agency and the Inland Revenue
- Hit squads to take over 'failing' councils
- A London mayor and assembly, plus some road measures
- Fewer benefits for asylum seekers; speedier appeals process
- Proportional representation for European elections
- Encouraging greater use of water meters
- Promoting electronic commerce via the internet
- A Financial Services Authority
- More investment in poor countries

What's out

- Road charging for motorists and other transport measures
- Freedom of Information bill
- A Food Standards Agency
- Reform of party funding
- Elected mayors for cities
- The sale of New Covent Garden Market

on "stage two" reform, to report by early 2000, Mr Blair revealed last night.

Queen's speech, page 5; Jonathan Freedland and Polly Toynbee, page 8; Leader comment, page 9

Lords: Blair pays the price

Michael White
Political Editor

THE Government last night combined radical rhetoric with distinctly cautious commitment in a Queen's Speech programme of reform for 1999 that is certain to be dominated by the historic battle between the elected Commons and the hereditary peers.

Even the timetable for the Government's Lords campaign remained clouded in uncertainty as Tony Blair and William Hague exchanged acrimonious taunts in the Commons over the irrelevance of each other's vision of "the people's priorities".

The Prime Minister wants to purge the Lords without losing his reforming bills on health, welfare, trade union rights and the legal system to

months of filibustering by peers determined to "die in the ditch" for their 700-year-old rights.

The price he is prepared to pay was evident last night in the important bills left out of the 22-bill Queen's Speech programme, or put on the back burner for consultation. They included Lord Neill's reforms of party funding, the Freedom of Information Bill, the Food Standards Agency, and John Prescott's plans for switching millions of journeys to public transport.

In one of his most combative leader's speeches yet, Mr Hague had mocked the Deputy Prime Minister for getting "precious little" in return for his loyalty. It later stated Mr Blair into a concession. On Channel 4 News last night, he said Mr Prescott's interim plans for a "shadow" Strategic Rail Authority would, after all, be made law this year "if we have time".

What ever hope the Prime Minister nurtured that the 1999-00 session will turn out that way was dispelled before Mr Hague opened his mouth when the Queen — centre-piece of only slightly reduced

With the Lords eager for a fight, that remains unlikely. Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, was quick to praise the Government's reforming aims, while chiding its reluctance to match rhetoric with risks. "Too much that ought to be done now is being held over for another time," he said.

For all three party leaders the coming session could prove decisive to their long-term prospects. Mr Blair went out of his way yesterday to stress that his "government of big goals" has a big legislative programme to launch, one in which Lords reform would be a sideshow compared with "the people's priorities" in modernising public services.

Whatever hope the Prime Minister nurtured that the 1999-00 session will turn out that way was dispelled before Mr Hague opened his mouth when the Queen — centre-piece of only slightly reduced



pageantry during the State Opening of Parliament — read her Speech from the Throne.

vote there was an unprecedented ripple of disapproval from peers, calls of "Shame" mingling with "Hear, hear" from assembled MPs.

In theory, if the Lords Reform Bill is not blocked by a rear-guard action in the Conservative-dominated Lords, the next Queen's Speech will be heard by 512 life peers alone.

"It is time to end the feudal domination of one half of our legislature by a Tory party that claims a divine right to govern this country and makes a hash of it every time they do," Mr Blair declared in the Commons.

In reality, the Cabinet is likely to have to use the Parliament Acts to impose its will on the 759 hereditary Lords, only 18 of them Labour.

Tory and crossbench peers claim that they will go quietly when the Government produces a blueprint for a "stage two" reform of the Upper

House — one that would prevent it becoming what Mr Hague dubbed Mr Blair's "House of Cronies".

A foretaste of the battle came with last week's fifth rejection by the peers of the Government's "closed list" Euro-elections bill.

The main assault on what Mr Blair calls the Tory "ownership" of the Lords will not surface until the new year. Like Mr Hague, ministers are keeping their "timing and tactics" close to their chests, convinced that voters will back them. Mr Hague calculates that the fight over the peerage will take place against a background of rising unemployment and falling public services.

The Cabinet will soon produce a short bill on Lords reform. It could be introduced in either House. Baroness Jay, Leader of the Lords, confirmed. Ministers will also announce a royal commission

The Jerwood Royal Court? We are not amused

Don Oslister
Arts Correspondent

AS THE Queen listens to talk of stripping down the pomp and ceremony associated with the monarchy, there are some royal privileges that she just will not relinquish: the Royal Court Theatre's attempts to change its name have been firmly vetoed by Her Majesty.

The theatre proposed changing its name to the Jerwood Royal Court in recognition of a £3 million donation from the Jerwood Foundation towards its £25.8 redevelopment. But,

according to the playwright David Hare, Buckingham Palace prevented the change.

"There was ... a proposal to call it the Jerwood Royal Court but the Queen intervened to stop that because you're not allowed to insert a corporate or foundation name before the word 'Royal'," Hare said.

Buckingham Palace acts on advice from the Home Office in matters concerning use of the word "royal". But it is understood that in this case the Queen personally intervened after being approached by the theatre, which was eager to check protocol. The Queen reportedly

insisted that there could not be another name before the word "Royal".

It is thought that the theatre and the Jerwood Foundation will agree on the title the Royal Court Jerwood Theatre. But that change would incur the wrath of the writers who constitute the backbone of the theatre's reputation.

A writers' revolt against renaming the theatre gained momentum last night as it emerged that a group of them was preparing an alternative deal to cover the theatre's £3 million shortfall.

It has raised only £4 million of the £7 million in

matching funding needed to complement the £18 million it received from the Arts Council.

The writers' main concern is that the word "Jerwood" would appear on the outside of the building.

"To have a sponsor's name on a building is the start of a very slippery slope," Caryl Churchill said. "We're not saying that we shouldn't accept the money, or that the name shouldn't be associated in some way. We're saying it would be more appropriate if it was in the inside, like the Cottesloe Theatre at the National."

You could have the Jerwood Studio, for instance."

She pointed to other instances when the Jerwood Foundation had donated money without demanding the renaming of an entire institution: the Jerwood Library at Trinity College and the Jerwood Gallery at the Natural History Museum.

But the Jerwood Foundation is thought to be insistent about the inclusion of its name in return for any donation. An impasse could endanger the Royal Court's redevelopment programme. Unless the £3 million is raised by April, the theatre faces liquidation.

Stephen Daldry, the Royal Court's head of fundraising and former artistic director, said: "It's a very real concern. My experience of the writing community is that they don't back down on points of principle. It's incredibly difficult for us to change our name without their support."

The Jerwood Foundation, which has supported the Royal Court's new playwrights' season, is a charitable foundation founded by the late John Jerwood. It has worked extensively in the arts.

Michael Billington, G2, page 11



In the aftermath of Hurricane Mitch the facts speak for themselves...

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- More than 15,000 missing
- Over 2 million homeless
- 90% of crops wiped out
- Typhoid, cholera, malaria and dengue threaten thousands of lives

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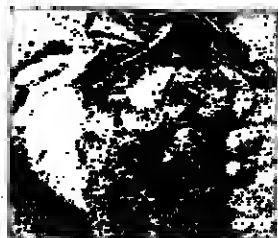
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UK news
The Fairness at Work Bill was being outlined in the Queen's Speech. Paddy Ashdown said it might quit Britain over Labour laws.
Page 3

International
Russia's old capital St Petersburg bade farewell to the murdered politician Galina Starovoitova with remorse and dignity.
Page 6



Our e-mail address for editorial comments is guardian@guardian.co.uk



In **G2 EUROPE** today: Genetically modified foods are getting the thumbs down – except from MPs. Stanley Greenberg reports

+ The arguments for and against allowing scientists to get to the root of the matter

Libya jailings 'are Lockerbie ploy'

Trials of security chiefs may be linked to surrender of suspects

Ian Black
Diplomatic Editor

THREE top Libyan security chiefs have reportedly been tried and imprisoned in Tripoli. It is thought that the move may be linked to Libyan preparations to surrender the Lockerbie bombing suspects

to face Scottish justice at The Hague.

According to well-placed Libyan sources, Abdullah Senussi, Musa Koussa and Muhammad al-Misrati were tried for "dereliction of duty" in the 1988 bombing of Pan Am 103 and sentenced to seven- and five-year prison terms.

Diplomats in London said yesterday that news of a trial

first surfaced earlier this month, although Mr Koussa, head of internal security, was seen in public after reportedly being imprisoned by a military tribunal.

All three men played key security roles at the time of the Lockerbie bombing in December 1988 and the downing of a French UTA airliner over Niger in 1989.

Senussi, Muammar Gaddafi's brother-in-law, is already facing trial in absentia in France.

Libyan exiles said that they believed the reports – which cannot be confirmed but are known to western and Arab governments – could be part of an attempt to prepare the ground for a handover of Abdel Basset Megrahi and Lamen Khalifa Fhimah, the two men accused of planting the bomb that killed 270 people in the explosion over Lockerbie.

In August, Britain and the US dropped their long-standing insistence on a trial in Scotland or the US, and said there could be a trial under Scottish law in The Hague.

Both countries have signalled that two individuals

not the entire Libyan regime, are on trial for murder.

But if these three senior officials were already behind bars, it would be harder to call them to The Hague to give evidence, even though Tripoli has been given guarantees that no Libyan witness would be arrested.

"This move is intended to fend off the Americans and the British and limit any damage to the regime," said one source. "There is no other reason why these people should be treated this way."

But an alternative explanation is that Col Gaddafi could claim he has dealt with the senior officials responsible and need not hand over the two junior officers.

Diplomats admit they are baffled. "The information is confusing because the Libyan regime is so secretive," said one. "Something is definitely going on and it is definitely linked to the Lockerbie affair. But we don't know what it is."

Other sources pointed out that Senussi and Koussa are such stalwarts of the regime that it is almost inconceivable

that they really have been jailed. "If it was part of some grand Libyan strategy, then somebody would have made an announcement by now," said one key official. "If it was part of a ladder for Gaddafi to climb down, then why hasn't he done it?"

One suggestion is that the men may have been punished for recent security lapses.

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, has said he is optimistic about the chances of a hand-over. The US and Britain have given positive answers to 11 out of 18 Libyan

requests for clarification about the trial, but insist that if convicted the suspects must serve their sentences in Scotland.

London and Washington have also made it clear that if there is no progress by December 21, the 10th anniversary of the Lockerbie bombing, they will seek to tighten United Nations sanctions.

The US has said that the UN offer to suspend sanctions when the two suspects arrived in the Netherlands would lapse if it was felt Tripoli was playing for time.

'She was out there for 10 or 15 minutes. When I went outside, she'd gone'

David Ward

POLICE said last night they were keeping an "open mind" on what had happened to a toddler who has not been seen since she disappeared from her home on a council estate in Warrington, Cheshire, on Tuesday.

Charlotte Jones, aged three, disappeared from her garden at tea-time on Monday after waving goodbye to a man believed to be a social worker in the front garden of the semi-detached house.

Charlotte's mother, Michelle, aged 24, was said to be "absolutely distraught" as she waited for news. Police appealed to residents to check their gardens, sheds and garages for something that at first sight could appear to be a bundle of rags.

But after intensive searches of the area involving divers, dogs, a helicopter and hundreds of residents, police believe Charlotte might have been taken from the garden rather than simply have wandered from it.

"The scope of the investigation is now extending beyond the search for a girl who may have strayed," a police spokeswoman said. "We will keep an open mind in terms of what may have happened but a very thorough search of the area has been done without anything being found."

Ms Jones described her daughter as a happy little girl who would not speak to people she did not know. "I dread to think what might

have happened to her," she said. "I just don't want to think that far. She was saying bye-bye to her friend, who had just left the house. I had come back in and was looking in the kitchen for something for her tea."

"She must have been out there for 10 or 15 minutes. When I went out, she'd gone."

The investigation included searches at Charlotte's home in Lewis Avenue, close to the St Helens canal. Forensic teams looked for clues including hairs and fingerprints.

Police also brought in a low-loader to take away a black Vauxhall Astra parked nearby. Chief Inspector Tim Jackson of Cheshire police said Ms Jones, who is thought to have no contact with Charlotte's father, was panicked when she could not find her daughter and contacted the police 50 minutes after she disappeared.

"Her family are supporting her and my officers have spoken to her at length, trying to get whatever information we can," he said. "Obviously we are very concerned for Charlotte's safety. She is only three years old and last night was very cold."

A police helicopter continued to search the area yesterday with heat-seeking equipment, while on the ground officers set up a mobile incident room and patrolled with search and rescue dogs.

Divers linked arms to check the fast-flowing, muddy canal and 20 volunteers from a factory searched an area of open grass, trees and low scrub.

"The underwater search has now moved further up the canal," the police spokeswoman said. "We've still got officers doing house-to-house inquiries as people are coming home from work. We have had 60 officers working today."

Residents also continued to help. "Everyone on the estate has been out searching," said Barry Kenyon, who was out most of the night with his sons Cameron, Elliott and Chris.

People described the estate as a close-knit community "where people look after each other". Mary Gleave, a neighbour, described Charlotte as "a really nice girl". "I used to see her playing out on her bike with the other children."



Charlotte Jones, aged three, who has been missing since Monday; and police searches outside her Warrington home



PHOTOGRAPH (Below): MIKE GRIMES

Germans threaten beef boycott

Ian Traynor in Bonn

AHEAD of steam was building in Germany yesterday for a national boycott of British beef in defiance of the European Union, as leading politicians, consumers, the farming lobby and big retailers denounced Monday's decision in Brussels to lift the beef export ban.

The health ministry in Bonn did not rule out a unilateral German boycott, violating the Brussels ruling.

McDonald's hamburger chain in Germany announced it did not and would not use British beef.

Germany was the only EU country on Monday to vote against lifting the ban and has been a consistent hard-liner on the issue since the mad cow disease crisis erupted in early 1996.

Ulrike Höfken of the Greens, the junior coalition partner in Bonn, demanded that Germany break with the rest of the EU and maintain the ban. The health ministry said it would check whether the conditions attached to lifting the ban were being observed before reviewing its options. It added that all parties in the German parliament had stressed that consumer protection took priority over economic factors.

"German consumers are very allergic to British beef," said Theo Wershoven of the German Meat Association in Frankfurt. "We're egoistic. Despite the British efforts, there

is still too much uncertainty. We fear that lifting the ban will have an adverse impact on beef consumption here."

Mr Wershoven's fears may not be unfounded. A phone-in survey of almost 30,000 people by RTL, Germany's most watched television station, found 67 per cent of respondents favouring a total beef boycott by consumers.

While Bildzeitung, the highest-circulation newspaper, ran the headline "Germany outvoted, British beef is back", on its front page, McDonald's, fearful of customer displeasure, stressed that its hamburgers were made from 100 per cent German beef.

"We will not sell, nor have we ever sold, any British beef," said the company. "The situation at McDonald's Germany will not change."

Sales of beef in Germany slumped more dramatically than anywhere else in the EU, including Britain, at the beginning of the BSE crisis. The lifting of the ban strongly suggests beef sales may plummet again. The German farmers' lobby sought to counter that prospect by urging shoppers to buy only German beef.

Collapsing sales is clearly the major fear of the meat and farming industry, with the national association of butchers describing the lifting of the ban as premature.

The environmental group Bund described the move as a "health and consumer scandal" and called on the government to implement strict checks on the origins of all beef sold in Germany.

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No flies on this exhilarating heart-stopper

Review

Lyn Gardner

Lord of the Flies
Preston/Touring

ALAMENT "for the lost childhood of the world" was how William Golding described his 1954 novel, written when the cold war was escalating, about a group of schoolboys who turn to savagery when their plane crashes and they are marooned on a desert island. *Marius Romer's* terrifying and exhilarating production, which arrives at the Charter

Theatre, Preston, this week on a national tour, takes a rather different approach. When the smoke begins to clear to reveal the jagged metal corpse of the aircraft – subsequently cunningly used to suggest the different parts of the island – it is clear this is no paradise. The relentless sun that beats down and the fire that the boys light and ineptly tend, shed a blood-red glow across a landscape that is barren, wind-swept and almost permanently dark. A continuous soundscape of rustles, crackles and menacing beats makes you think of the sickening thud of the heart. Like *Neverland*, where Peter Pan's Lost Boys hung out, this island could be entirely in the imagi-

nation. After all, childhood is merely a Victorian construct, something that is all in the mind. It is into the darker reaches of the mind that this production worms its way, using a revised version of Nigel Williams's adaptation, staged by the RSC in 1996.

Williams's script, bereft of Golding's descriptive power, still betrays its limitations, particularly in its telescoping of time, the sketchiness of the soon-to-be-martyred Simon, and the datedness of the public school lingo.

But Romer's production, which has both a manic energy and moments of heart-stopping stillness, counters these deficiencies and succeeds in making the whole thing seem

slap up to date, particularly in its depiction of the rocky path of boys to manhood, inevitable slide into the oblivion of the sea is breathtakingly staged and shows out the law of the jungle pervading, but that of the playground hully.

Danny Nutt's Jack, a mixture of preening arrogance and edgy insecurity, afraid of not being part of the gang, is exactly the kind of kid who, if he were American and had access to his daddy's arsenal, would not think twice about mowing down his schoolmates with an automatic if he thought they had slighted him.

In this world, it is not just the actions of these children, but the absence of adults that

becomes most disturbing. When the naval officer who finds the survivors inquires: "It was a game, wasn't it?" it sounds less like a question and more like the desperate reassurance sought by parents who have unwittingly glimpsed the potential savagery of their offspring. At the end, the sound of the sea fills the ears, and Ralph weeps like a wounded seagull. But there is no washing away of guilt and no absolution. The bloody stains remain: the airplane lies like an open wound.

As you leave, you wonder what kind of men, what kind of fathers, will Ralph and Jack become?

This review appeared in later editions yesterday.

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Saddam wields terror — and feigns respect

Maggie O'Kane in Baghdad
on Saddam Hussein's
two-pronged strategy for
controlling an increasingly
hostile population

IT IS lunchtime outside the entrance of Baghdad University, and students in gold bracelets and sweeping skirts respond to the news that Saddam Hussein's deputy has survived assassination, much as first-year students might do anywhere: "The news? What news? I haven't heard anything. I don't watch the news and I don't read the papers," says Nadia, aged 19.

Her boyfriend Hussein offers a more nonchalant view: "I heard they tried to do him in, but they didn't succeed." It's not clear from his voice whether he is relieved or disappointed.

There was no nonchalance in the regime's response. It announced in all four state-controlled newspapers that the investigation was "still going on to discover who committed this heinous crime".

Least Ibrahim survived the blast of two hand grenades tossed at his car in a rare public flaring of discontent. The attack took place in Kerbala, a holy Shi'ite city controlled by one of President Saddam's toughest and most experienced military leaders, Sabir al-Duri.

It was not only a failure of security for one of the regime's leading security chiefs but, more worryingly

for President Saddam, a failure to appease an increasingly hostile population.

Outside Baghdad the regime's grip is tight but there are cracks. Officials do not travel after dark, the army does not bring any hardware within 30 miles of the capital because of fears that regular troops might turn against the government.

The protection of the president is tighter than ever. His security force, controlled by his son Uday, is called the Martyrs of Saddam and includes men trained at Sandhurst.

President Saddam uses military helicopters to fly within the country but never lands at designated airports. The landing sites are selected at the last possible moment.

His road convoys contain at least six identical vehicles so an assassin cannot distinguish which car is his. He travels regularly to palaces hidden from public view.

Since 1991 President Saddam has used a two-pronged approach to control the most rebellious provinces, including Kerbala. As terror, arrest and state executions continue, the state has mounted an outward show of tolerance and respect, particularly towards the Shi'ite majority.

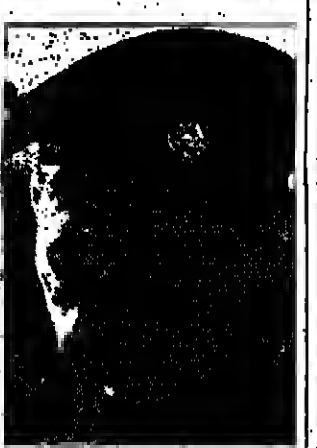


The Iraqi city of Kerbala (above) after the 1991 uprising. Its mosques (one is pictured below) were rebuilt quickly to appease angry Shi'ite Muslims. MAIN PHOTOGRAPH: FRANÇOISE DEMULDER

The mosques of Kerbala, two of the holiest shrines in the Muslim world which were desecrated by government troops during the 1991 uprising, were among the first buildings in the country to be rebuilt — an attempt to cool the wrath of the Shi'ites.

But in the past year two renowned holy teachers, imams at the Koranic schools in Kerbala, have been murdered. Opposition sources insist they were killed by the regime, which feared their outspoken influence.

A month ago four students



Izzat Ibrahim: Saddam's deputy attacked in holy city

were shown on national television confessing to the murders, allegedly because of a row over student grants. The confessions were greeted with cynicism but the fact that the regime even bothered to stage them shows its fear of antagonising the Shi'ites.

The government banned the large public funerals expected for both men, fearing a gathering of angry mourners. But it announced on television a public day of mourning for the entire country.

Iraqis fear another uprising even more than a United States-led air attack. "There were so many people killed in 1991. If the Americans bombed long enough to convince people they were serious there would be an uprising and it would be a complete bloodbath — there are so many scores to be settled from 1991," said one man, who asked not to be named.

A new book for supporters of the ruling Ba'ath party — entitled *The Grand Fight and the Mother of All Battles* — claims the uprising was staged by "30,000 Iranians secretly flown into southern Iraq on American planes" and that the rebels were "juvenile delinquents, disloyal soldiers and illiterates and slum dwellers".

The memory of the mass and indiscriminate executions that followed is the most powerful curb to the growth of opposition.

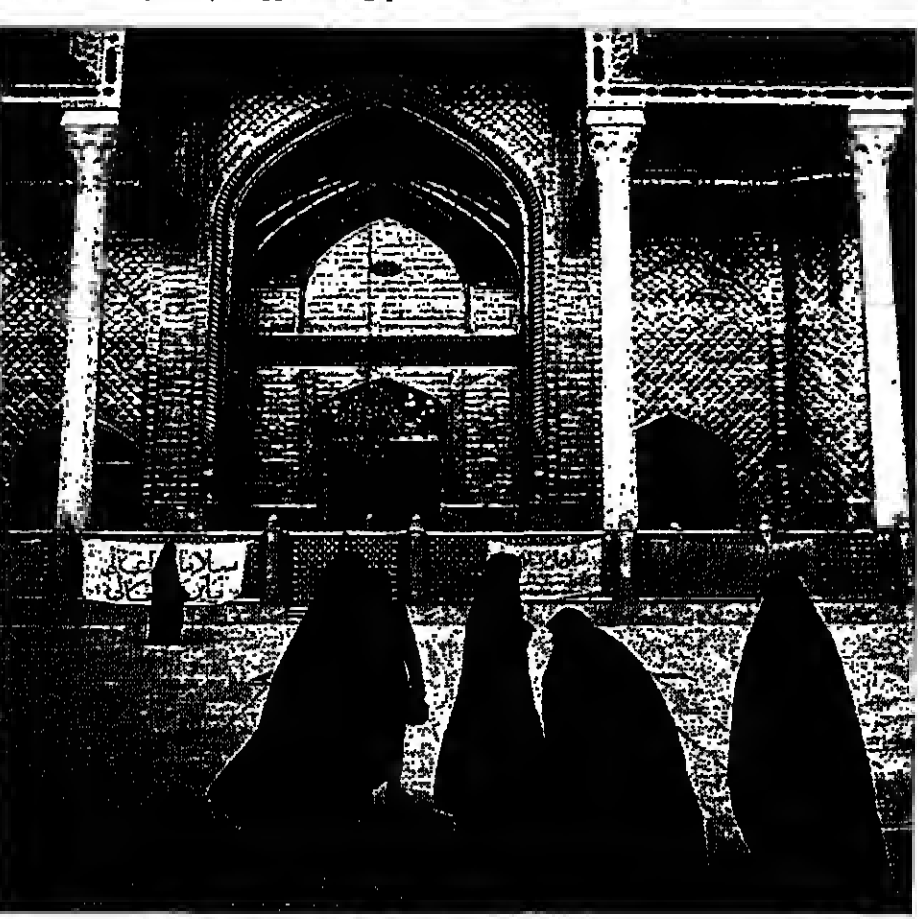
A 56-year-old woman from the southern city of Basra, who fled the country illegally two years ago and is now a refugee in London, told the Guardian how her son had died in the uprising.

"After the Republican Guards shelled the city for 10 days they started going house-to-house in any area where there had been rebel action."

"Khalid was a very quiet boy. He had passed his scholarship exams at the American Embassy in Baghdad and got a scholarship to the US to do his PhD. He was in the airport with his bags packed when the invasion of Kuwait happened on August 2, so he got stuck in Iraq."

"He didn't take part in the rebellion but in the area where we lived the Republican Guards took out every young person they found and tied them one arm to leg to each other on the green, in front of our houses, and then they shot them all in front of our eyes."

"He was my only son and he was a very clever, but quiet boy. We learned a hard lesson in 1991."



Rolls-Royce threat to quit UK

European labour laws may lead to move to US, chairman warns

Terry Macalister

ROLLS-ROYCE yesterday threatened to switch manufacturing to the United States if Britain took on too many of the European Union's labour and social costs.

The warning by Sir Ralph Robins, chairman of the prestigious aero-engine maker, came as the Queen in Parliament outlined the Fairness at Work Bill, which will increase employers' responsibilities.

The company employs 30,000 skilled workers in Britain, mainly at Derby and Bristol. A decision to transfer manufacturing overseas would have a devastating effect on British manufacturing prestige. Sir Ralph, who is

also non-executive chairman of Cable & Wireless, told a lunch meeting in Sydney that continental Europe was now 30 per cent more expensive for an employer than the UK.

He said Britain was currently a good place for manufacturing but he was concerned about the weight of European Union regulations covering part-time workers and works councils heading for Britain.

"The last thing we want is some of the European labour laws appearing in the UK, and I am not just saying that for Rolls-Royce, I am saying that for every industrialist in the UK."

He said he was confident "sense would prevail" in Britain but added: "We have an out if it happens, and the out is we have got manufacturers around the world" — a refer-

ence to Rolls-Royce plants in the US and elsewhere.

His remarks come a month after plans by the car parts giant, LucasVarity, to shift the company's headquarters to the US were narrowly defeated by a shareholder rebellion.

Rolls-Royce's presence in the US has been growing since it took over Allison Engine Co in 1996. Now nearly one quarter of its staff are employed in the US, which accounts for one third of its earnings.

Sir Ralph was speaking only weeks after the CBI president, Sir Clive Thompson, expressed concern that the Government risked "strangling the golden goose with red tape".

A CBI spokesman last night said that Sir Ralph's comments echoed worries among employers about the way the Government was gradually increasing costs.

"We have long maintained that it is vitally important

that Europe's labour markets move more towards being more rather than less flexible if European Monetary Union is to be a success and the EU's unemployment problems are to be properly addressed," he said.

The Department of Trade and Industry declined to comment specifically on the Rolls-Royce threat. But a spokesman said the Government was well aware of the need to balance social costs with employers' needs.

New Labour has introduced a raft of legislation on employment issues, including its Fairness at Work initiative, which promises family-friendly employment practices with new rights for paternity and maternity leave.

Already key EU regulations, such as the Working Time Directive, have been adopted. And more EU regulations covering part-time working, parental leave, and works councils have been agreed and will be intro-

duced in Britain before the end of next year. These could all add to employers' costs.

At the state opening of Parliament yesterday, the Queen said the Government would bring forward measures to establish a balance of rights and responsibilities for employers and employees and promote partnership at work.

John Monks, general secretary of the Trades Union Congress, welcomed the Fairness at Work initiative. "It promises the basic minimum rights at work that everyone else in Europe takes for granted."

But the Forum of Private Business said that 78 per cent of its members opposed the bill. Stan Mendham, chief executive, said: "Anything that reduces profitability is to be opposed."

Rolls-Royce yesterday announced it had won a £100 million order from Aerolineas Argentinas to supply Trent 500 engines to power six A340-600 aircraft.

Fate of Pinochet sealed by Law Lords ruling today

Vikram Dodd

AMID the ornate splendour of the House of Lords chamber, the fate of General Augusto Pinochet will be decided today. The former Chilean dictator will find out if he is to escape extradition to Spain to stand trial for the crimes of his regime.

The five Law Lords will announce at 2pm whether they will overturn a High Court ruling last month that Gen Pinochet's arrest was unlawful and that he was immune from the legal process of England's courts because he is a former head of state.

The case came after Spain requested his extradition to stand trial for genocide, terrorism and torture. Madrid's request implicates the general in 3,178 murders or "disappearances".

His arrest on October 16 at

the London Clinic while recovering from back surgery triggered a souring of relations between London and Santiago.

The survivors of Gen Pinochet's 17-year rule await the judgment from Lords Steyn, Lloyd, Slynn, Nicholls and Hoffmann, which may be the last chance to bring him to justice.

If the Law Lords uphold the High Court's October 28 ruling, Gen Pinochet will be free to leave Britain. It would be a welcome birthday present for the former dictator, who turns 83 today.

He would be expected to fly back to South America on a Chilean air force jet, equipped with medical facilities, which has waited a month for its notorious passenger at RAF Brize Norton in Oxfordshire.

Such a journey would put Gen Pinochet beyond the

reach of courts in several European countries where victims of his regime or their families want to see him tried.

But if the judgment went against the general, he could expect a lengthy stay in Britain while the extradition process began in earnest.

The focus would then move on to the Home Secretary, Jack Straw, who would decide if the extradition requests from Spain, France and Switzerland could proceed.

Now Street magistrates' court has set Mr Straw a December 2 deadline by which to decide whether to allow the Spanish extradition request to go before the courts.

On the same day, health permitting, Gen Pinochet would make his first public appearance since his arrest, at a preliminary hearing.

Isabel Hilton, page 8

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Charity admits it failed to ensure the safety of two young volunteers killed in the collapse of a sea wall on Orkney island

Prince's Trust fined £10,000 over deaths

Sarah Hall

THE Prince of Wales's charity, the Prince's Trust, was fined £10,000 yesterday after it admitted it failed to ensure the safety of two young volunteers killed after a sea wall collapsed on them on a remote Orkney island.

Two other organisations were also penalised after all three pleaded guilty to breaching health and safety laws by allowing the men to work on a structural engineering job for which they were "not competent".

But while Sheriff Colin Scott Mackenzie fined Adult Community Training (Dun-

dee) Ltd £5,000 and Angus College, Arbroath, £2,500, he added: "At the end of the day, it must be thought that the Prince's Trust is where the buck stops."

Kirkwall sheriff court was told that the tragedy — in which Derek Taylor, aged 19, and Garry Leaburn, 25, both from Dundee, were crushed by five tonnes of concrete in August 1997 — was "entirely foreseeable".

The unemployed men, two of a group of 13 volunteers working on the island of North Ronaldsay, had been trained to repair a drystone dike but were instructed to dig foundations under an unsupported, 12ft high concrete sea wall. As they did so, a 20ft

section fell and suffocated them.

Professional witnesses from the Health and Safety Executive, Orkney Islands Council and Scottish Enterprise all agreed the scope of the project was beyond the volunteers' competence, prosecutor Iain Grahame Napier told the court.

"Had safety been high on the agenda, then it would have been obvious this project was well outside the competency of this group. Any element of risk assessment would have indicated that."

"As a result of the failure to comply with their obligations under the Health and Safety at Work Act, two young men tragically lost their lives."

David Stewart, for the

Prince's Trust, said the charity had no idea the work on the wall was being undertaken, and would have forbidden it had it known.

But he acknowledged the trust was negligent in not ensuring that Adult Community Training "made provision for risk assessment training".

The organisation ran the 12-week programme for the trust, while Angus College provided both the premises and a team leader. After the hearing Elizabeth Crowther-Hunt, executive director of the Prince's Trust Volun-

teers, admitted the organisation's health and safety procedures "were insufficient on this occasion". A thorough review had been carried out

to prevent further tragedies, and new measures had been introduced.

"It is of paramount importance that we learn every lesson from this terrible tragedy. The health and safety of young people on our programme is our highest priority," she added.

Passing sentence, Sheriff Mackenzie said: "Two lives have been lost and to reflect that sums must be high — but I also take into account the considerable difficulty and effects in penalising what are essentially charities."

"Nothing will bring back the two that died but the public has to be aware that such matters are treated carefully by the courts."



The sea wall on North Ronaldsay, in the Orkney Islands, in ruins a year after the tragedy



Jane Couch (left) and her German opponent, Simon Lukic, at the weigh-in for Britain's first professional women's boxing bout

PHOTOGRAPH BY KEVIN LAMARQUE

Women boxers in first bout for cash purse

Vivik Chaudhary
Sports Correspondent

IT WAS a small step on to the weighing scale, but a giant one for British boxing. Jane Couch, aged 30, weighed in at 10 stone.

Clenching her fists, the country's first professional woman boxer signalled that she was ready for Britain's first professional women's bout.

Tonight's fight against Simon Lukic, aged 18, from Germany, will be watched by a sell-out crowd of 1,900 at Cae-

sar's nightclub in Streatham, south London.

"I want to educate people that women's boxing can be just as competitive as men's," Couch said. "In France, Germany, Mexico and America, women's boxing is massive."

The women's world welterweight champion, who fights at the Fleetwood Assassin, has been boxing for four years but gained a professional licence only after taking the Boxing Board of Control to the Equal Opportunities Commission this year.

Unlike many male counter-

parts, she offered no pre-fight hyperbole yesterday, saying only: "I think it should be a good fight. I'm just going to get on with doing my job what I have trained hard for."

Couch, from Fleetwood in Lancashire, took up the sport after seeing a television documentary on women's boxing. She trained with men at a Bristol gym and claims to have knocked out dozens of them. She has trained four months for tonight's fight, her tenth professional bout.

Tex Woodward, her trainer and manager, said: "Jane

trains harder than the average pro. Women should be able to have if they want to. Half the male fighters in her weight category in the country couldn't beat Jane. No woman could get within a mile of her."

For tonight's fight, Couch will wear shorts given to her by Angela Dundee, Muhammad Ali's former trainer. The only extra equipment women have to wear are pads to protect their breasts, and headbands to keep their hair back.

The Boxing Board of Control, which opposed Couch's

original application for a licence, claiming women should not fight because premenstrual tension made them unstable, said: "Women's boxing is now part of the professional scene and we wish Jane Couch well."

Couch, who will be fighting for a purse of £1,250, said more women should take up boxing. "If women want to stay at home, put on their make-up or dance around their handbags then they should be allowed to do that. But if they want to box they should be free to do that too."

Trip to Turkey 'turned sour' after wife's romance

Holiday mother abandons children

Will Woodward

THREE British children were staying with relatives last night after their mother abandoned them in a taxi in Turkey following a holiday romance.

The children — the oldest of whom is 11 — were left with Turkish friends who had been asked to look after them by a British consulate official in Istanbul, written in the back of a copy of the book *James and the Giant Peach*.

The mother, Tracy Nolan, asked the taxi driver to drop them at the consulate, where they were looked after by staff before being flown to England. They are now back in Hull, their home city. Mrs Nolan's half-brother has filed a custody claim for two of the children.

Mrs Nolan, 32, separated from her husband, Mike, 37, in the Turkish resort of Turunc, near Marmaris. The couple had travelled for a £1,700 holiday, paid for by Mr Nolan, a factory worker, with his two children by a previous marriage and Mrs Nolan's three children by an earlier relationship.

But Mrs Nolan said yesterday their holiday turned sour after an apparently wealthy 28-year-old Jordanian, Gassan Abu, who ran an boutique next to their apartment, "started taking a lot of interest in my wife".

Mr Nolan told a newspaper: "I threatened to flatten him and he kept away for a while, but then he started following us to the beach. I learned later that Tracy told my

daughter, Vikki, they had been kissing, but swore her to secrecy."

He attempted a reconciliation with his wife, then decided to return home with his two children. Mrs Nolan remained in Turkey with her three children, Daniel, aged 11, Jessica, 10, and Casey, nine.

Three weeks later, on October 21, Mrs Nolan left the children in the taxi with a note for consul official Shane Campbell, who she had previously met to discuss returning the children home.

The note said: "Dear Shane, I am sorry about leaving my children with you but they want to go home to England."

'I only wish we'd gone to Skegness, then none of this would have happened'

and Mike... Please believe me when I say I am fit and well... I would of [sic] kept my children with me but I have no money as I have sold everything I can but will manage for myself."

The taxi driver took the children to the door of the consulate, but the offices were shut.

They were looked after by a policeman until staff returned.

A spokesman at the consulate said yesterday the children were aware of what was happening but added: "They

were very quiet and well-behaved. They didn't seem unduly upset or sad or distressed."

"We took them into the consulate during the afternoon and placed them overnight with a member of staff who has a child."

"Flights were arranged for them to go home the following morning."

The stepfather told the consulate he would pick them up at the airport.

The consulate "exceptionally" met the £285 cost of the flights.

Mrs Nolan's half-brother, Richard Scaife, who is looking after Jessica and Casey, said he had applied for custody of the two children.

Daniel is staying with an aunt, Sharon, who told the Hull Daily Mail Daniel was "very angry with his mum and doesn't want to see her at the moment". She had agreed to look after Daniel to prevent him being taken into care.

Mr Scaife told the same paper he wanted to look after the children permanently.

Mrs Nolan is believed to have since travelled to France and Germany. She apparently told one of the children she would be dying her hair black.

In an interview with the Sun, Mr Nolan said his and his wife's children were on separate passports.

"In spite of everything, I'm still concerned for Tracy's safety. She reckons her new lover is a millionaire and will move her into a palace."

"I only wish we'd gone to Skegness instead of Turkey, then none of this would have happened."

Granada executive is forced to eat his words

Outrage over 'lazy' slur on fat people

Amelia Gentleman

AGRANADA group executive has caused outrage by declaring that he would not employ fat people because they were "stupid and lazy".

Equal opportunities campaigners voiced dismay at his remarks yesterday, which they claim were a candid expression of widely-held views.

Gordon Towell, a managing director with the Granada leisure conglomerate, told a radio phone-in focusing on weight-related issues: "We practise what I guess you would call a policy of slight discrimination, in the sense that we do not like to and we will not employ very fat people."

"The reason is quite simple. They do take more time off work and they tend to be more unhealthy and they tend to have a more slovenly, slothful attitude towards the job they do."

Conscious of the controversy he was about to unleash, Mr Towell tried to remain anonymous — describing himself when he called Nicky Campbell's *Five Live* show simply as "Gordon from Bedford", an employer of "quite a number of people".

His full identity, and position as managing director of Granada Business Technology, leaked out later.

Adding that he would "rather have people of normal weight", he said: "Fat people tend to be much less healthy than people who are an average weight, and that's a fact."

A Granada spokesman

moved swiftly to distance the company from his comments, stating: "We are an equal opportunity employer. We are very concerned about these comments and will look into them."

It is not illegal to discriminate on the grounds of weight or size, and the Equal Opportunities Commission does not protect people from this kind of bias.

But Helen Jackson, a barrister specialising in employment issues, is campaigning to change the law. "Overweight people come across this kind of discrimination all the time," she said. "People

A British Airways spokeswoman said yesterday that applicants for cabin crew posts had to show that their "height was in proportion to their weight."

"It is a demanding lifestyle and they have to be fit."

The Obesity Resource Information Centre confirmed that overweight people suffered discrimination in the workplace.

Recent research in America found that overweight candidates were less likely to be hired, even though they were perceived as equally competent on job-related tests as non-obese candidates.

Further studies have shown that overweight young adults in the UK and the US earn significantly less than their less weighty counterparts.

Susan Jebb, a nutrition researcher, said yesterday that there were issues connected with being seriously overweight that might affect someone's ability to work.

"People who are clinically obese are much more likely to suffer from things like diabetes, high blood pressure and high cholesterol."

But she stressed: "It is perfectly possible to be overweight and very fit. Health risk is not determined solely by one's weight. It depends on other factors like one's fitness."

"I would be very concerned about people making broad generalisations solely on someone's weight."

Mr Towell was not available for comment yesterday, but he said in a statement: "My lighthearted remarks have caused offence than I apologise."

Hunger striker 'near death'

Amelia Gentleman

ANIMAL rights campaigner Barry Horne left prison in an ambulance yesterday to spend the 10th day of his hunger strike under police guard in hospital after doctors decided his condition was critical.

Horne, aged 46, was jailed for 18 years last year for causing £3 million damage by fire bombing shops in a two-year arson campaign. He began the first on October 6 in protest at the Government's refusal to

ban animal testing.

A close friend who visited him in prison just before he was transferred to York district hospital, said he seemed to be hours rather than days from death. Fellow activists said he was still willing to abandon the hunger strike if the Home Office committed itself to establishing a royal commission to study the future of vivisection, as the Labour Party pledged to do before the election.

However, the Home Office said it would not respond to blackmail attempts. A spokes-

man said: "The Government has a programme of work relating to the use of animals in scientific procedures, and this will not be altered in timing or content by protests of this sort."

The Animals Betrayed Coalition described Horne as extremely frail last night after taking nothing but water for seven weeks; he was in serious pain, had lost most of his sight and was too ill to walk.

He has drawn up a living will which states that he wants no medical help if he loses consciousness. Horne had not

fully recovered from two previous hunger strikes this year — the first lasted 35 days and the second 46. Doctors said last week that even if he did give up the fast, his chances of survival were slim. His wish not to receive direct medical attention would be respected.

"Barry is still hoping that the Government will grant him a royal commission and he will not give up until they do. He is still determined to win, but if he doesn't win he will die," a spokesman for ABC said.



Barry Horne... jailed for 18 years for arson

Social worker 'lived and died for her job'

Stuart Millar

THE family of a social worker stabbed to death at a care in the community (hostel) yesterday paid tribute to her dedication and courage, as a man aged 26 was charged with the murder.

Jenny Morrison, aged 50, was on a routine visit to a resident of the council-run hostel in Baltham, south London, when she was stabbed eight times in the stomach with two kitchen knives. She was pronounced dead 20 minutes after her arrival at hospital.

Anthony Joseph, an unemployed resident of the hostel, will appear before South-western magistrates today, charged with the murder, which has brought renewed demands for a review of the care in the community programme.

Ms Morrison had worked for

Wandsworth council for 21 years. After qualifying in 1982 she had gained a good reputation as a specialist mental health social worker.

Ms Morrison's sister, Sandra Foster, said yesterday that she had been devoted to her work. "She lived for her job and she died for her job and for all the people that she worked with."

She said Ms Morrison's daughter, Tania, aged 28, who has two children, was "absolutely distraught".

Located on the corner of a quiet, tree-lined street, the only thing marking out the large house which is the hostel from its well-kept neighbours yesterday was the police presence at the front door. Opened 20 years ago, it serves as a halfway house for those with mental health problems but not severe psychiatric disorders. It can cater for up to 13 residents, although it is understood only

four residents and four staff were staying there this week.

Mike Rundle, the council's social services director, said: "Ms Morrison's tragic death is an enormous loss to those people who worked alongside her and the people she helped on a professional basis for more than 20 years."

The council has announced an inquiry into the incident, but mental health charities have demanded a review of care in the community amid fears for the safety of staff.

Marjorie Wallace, chief executive of Sane, called on the Government to ensure that social services were "no longer driven by optimistic ideologies but by common sense, backed by sufficient beds, trained staff and crisis intervention."

She said the incident "exposes yet again a policy which is unsafe and is failing to protect patients, families, the public and



Jenny Morrison was stabbed eight times

those who work with seriously disturbed people."

The Government will soon unveil a package of measures and investment of up to £1 billion to overhaul care in the community and provide safe-

guards for care workers and the public. Michael Howlett, director of the Zito Trust — set up after the stabbing of Jonathan Zito by a care in the community patient — said: "This is an absolute tragedy."

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Minimalist measures avoid Lords' logjam

ANALYSIS: Ewen MacAskill and Michael White on a very New Labour programme of legislation: strong on presentation and intent, weaker on details and implementation.

It is a radical Queen's Speech or a minimalist one? MPs did not put it as starkly as that last night in the Westminster corridors but the question hung in the air as they discussed the party leaders' ritual duel. "The People's Priorities," said Tony Blair. "Anything but that," replied William Hague. Backbenchers were caught in between. Left-wingers and liberals at almost any time this century would have enthusiastically agreed that a programme which promises abolition of hereditary voting rights in the Lords was progressive. The speech contains other ambitious projects to further what Mr Blair called modernisation of the public services, internal reform of the NHS, more responsive and effective criminal courts, a shake-up for fat cats in the legal professions, and — the biggest prize — incremental reform of the £90 billion welfare budget.

disconnection for those who cannot pay their bills, a long-sought commission to protect the interests of the disabled, sexual equality for the age of consent. Such reforms address the needs of Labour's core constituency. Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, prefers moving by stealth in reforming the asylum system, hugely significant, fraught with danger from both left and right. Likewise Peter Mandelson's attempt to square the TUC/CBI circle over partial restoration of trade union rights in the Fairness at Work Bill. Last night it looked as if the unions may have won a round in preventing imposition of a time limit on union membership for recognition purposes. The details, as they trickle out, will be controversial. But the outline of the biggest controversy is already known. Only the tactics are unclear on how Blair will get rid of the hereditary peers without losing half their bills in the crossfire. It is an issue which will arouse more passions in parliament than in the pub.

It could take a year or two, if the peers refuse to go quietly, closing up the legislative system. One senior Conservative peer last night warned the Government of frustration ahead. "There is going to be trouble over the Lords. Everyone can smell that one coming." Faced with hostile peers, the Government had no choice but to write a minimalist Queen's Speech, introducing other big, controversial reforming bills would have ended up in a logjam. In spite of those constraints the Government has brought in some bills,

albeit limited, that are still progressive. The Fairness at Work Bill helps reverse, in part, the anti-union legislation of the Thatcher years. When details are published the unions may be unhappy with some of it, but the thrust is progressive. So too is the Age of Consent Bill, which brings the homosexual age of consent into line with that of heterosexuals at 16. And yet there will be more than a silver of disappointment among liberals and left with this Queen's Speech, mainly over missing bills. The failure of the Government to pursue a Food Standards Agency raises suspicion that the voice of the food industry has been louder than that of the consumer. Liberals and left-wingers are already lamenting the failure to introduce the long-promised Freedom of Information Act. Is the excuse that it needs more work true, they were asking each other last night. Likewise John Prescott's ambitious transport plans. Few doubt his intentions to lure us all from cars to public transport, certainly not Paddy Ashdown in his Commons speech last night. But some share William Hague's taunting doubt about his clout. There are a host of missing hills, from the promise to create directly-elected mayors (London apart, a ban on fox-hunting, and the right to roam, promised as a memorial to the late John Smith. Land access legislation is to be introduced by the Scottish Parliament but the position for England and Wales is left in limbo. There is also no strategic rail authority to hammer the privatised rail companies. Lords reform apart, the biggest test of whether the Queen's Bill is progressive is welfare. It is debatable whether withdrawal of universal benefits and targeting them at the most needy is progressive. But there is a bill to give more rights to the disabled. The Conservatives argued yesterday that Lords reform was a diversion from what the public are really interested in: jobs, law and order, education and health. That was Mr Hague's theme last night, one which Tony Blair sought to deflect amid scorn at Tory impudence. The Conservatives are hoping that as Lords reform becomes hogged down next year, the public will become disgruntled with the Government, especially if there is a recession. The argument runs that the public will regard Lords reform as a diversion from the real issues that face people day in day out.

In spite of constraints the Government has brought in some bills, albeit limited, that are still progressive. Yet there will be more than a silver of disappointment among liberals and left

Mr Blair views himself as heading a radical government that in its first year has already introduced one of the biggest shake-ups of the constitution this century, devolution, and is about to embark on another one, Lords reform. If the Government gets its bill through by next autumn, it will be more than halfway through its parliamentary term. Labour will already be gearing up for the next general election and thinking about a manifesto for the second term. If the bill is delayed a further year, the election will almost be on top of everyone.

What then would this Labour government be remembered for? The Millennium Dome, which may or may not be a success? Its economic policies? Tinkering with welfare reform? Moves towards a single currency? Devolution? Reform of the Lords? If all it had done in its first term was the last two, it would deserve to be considered a radical government. Apart from the bill on Lords reform, the other bills are on the whole a cautious collection. But they are cautious only because they surround such a contentious measure. The Lords are dying in.

MPs' jeers interrupt monarch's last rites for her peers

Sketch



Simon Hoggart

THE Lords were quiet as they waited for the Queen. Deathly quiet, like someone who really can't decide on eggs or cereal for his pre-hanging breakfast. They always are quiet, though this time they were perhaps more so than ever before. It may be the last time that the State Opening of Parliament looks like this, a jumble of scarlet and gold and ermine and twinkling diamonds, a Victorian architect's idea of what a mediaeval palace should have looked like but never did. They were standing on the most magnificent turn of the world has ever seen. Just after 11.30, the MPs arrived from the Commons, chatting, stamping, rumbling, and aggressively making their presence felt. If they were football fans supporting the away team they would have been marched from the station with a police escort. For a while they were quite well behaved. They stood at the back and listened to the first part of the Queen's Speech which, from their silence, might have met with

their approval. It was the first Queen's Speech I've heard which incorporated fulsome praise for the Government. Usually ministers are supposed to do this kind of back-slapping for themselves. "The historic decision to give the Bank of England power to set interest rates has been crucial... my Government has fulfilled its commitments..." and so on. As we listened to an elderly, dutiful woman mouthing this nonsense, I realised that the Government has decided to turn the Queen into its highest paid spin doctor. We'll know that Alastair Campbell has taken over completely when she says in coming years "And anyone who says any different is talking complete crap." Then roughly halfway through she announced: "A bill will be introduced to remove the right of hereditary peers to sit and vote in the House of Lords." The peers took it ramrod straight. But from the back, from the hooligans' enclosure, there rose a mumble, then a roar, almost a chant, then a "hyeah hyeah" noise. It was the Commons jeering at this "removal of the Lords." I doubt if anything like that has happened for hundreds of years. Nobody ever interrupts the Queen's Speech. It simply doesn't happen. Yesterday it did. It was the precise equivalent of the visiting fans shouting: "They've all gone quiet over there!" The Queen looked up briefly, then continued. She has seen worse. But I don't know if she has read the words: "My Government will take steps to abolish me."

If that was what the new "slimmed down" ceremony looks like, heaven knows how dazzling the execution will be. There were page boys, standing by the throne, whose white silk tights got more crumpled as the speech went on. Most fathers would think "Aaah," until you realised these infants were called Lord Dunsheath, Lord Eakdall and Viscount Chewton. The peers were magnificent in borrowed ermine. Perhaps nothing will wound all that much, except that in years to come the scarlet robes will say "JVC" or "Carlsberg" across the back. The ambassadors were even finer, in morning dress and Arab robes, their wives sat facing them in silk and jewels, looking like the annual reunion of the 1967 Miss World finalists. The Queen arrived in the chamber, and sat on the throne. The Lord Chancellor appeared in the full ceremonial clobber that he is trying to get out of. He knelt before her and pulled the speech out of a magnificent embroidered velvet bag. When she had finished, he knelt before her and she dropped it back in the bag, like a railway passenger putting a used Sun into the cleaner's plastic sack. I thought of the thousands of lawyers all round the country who would give almost anything to see Derry Irvine abuse himself in front of anyone, even the Queen. She left, and the peers turned on the Commons behind them in an impressive massed scowl, all their eyes and protruding lips and V-shaped eyebrows. I doubt if the MPs even noticed.



Labour's promised bills that went astray

David Hencke Westminster Correspondent

JOHN Prescott's radical plan to introduce road charging for motorists is the top victim among the bills that were not included in the Queen's Speech. The proposals — announced in a white paper on integrated transport last July — do not even merit a draft bill, unlike other measures. Instead, only a limited experiment in empowering the new Greater London Council to introduce road charges and workplace parking levies could start in 2000. The Deputy Prime Minister — who had earlier this year decided that he had lost the battle to get the bill in the Speech — will now be lucky to get any road congestion charges or motorway charging introduced this side of the next general election. Without a draft bill this year, it will not stand much chance of inclusion in the next Speech. Yet Mr Prescott had promised in June 1997 that he would "have failed if in five years time there are not far fewer journeys by car." He also failed to get a bill for a new strategic rail authority included in next year's legislation — despite lambasting the performance of the rail companies at this year's Labour conference. Instead, he will have to be content with a draft bill — and hope that this bill will stand a reasonable chance of being included in the next Queen's Speech. In the meantime, he hopes to set up a shadow authority, using the remnants of power left to the old nationalised British Railways Board. Nick Brown, the Agriculture Minister, has also lost his chance to set up a food standards agency next year as legislation has been postponed.

Radical benefit reforms are 'on track', insists Government

David Brindley, Social Services Correspondent

ALISTAIR Darling, the Social Security Secretary, yesterday declared that radical welfare reform is on course after the Queen's Speech set out a programme of changes to modernise the benefits system. Plans to overhaul benefits for disabled people and widows, announced over the past month, were coupled with a more unexpected announcement that the Government would also press ahead next year on the problematic front of pensions. Ministers are sensitive to accusations of lost momentum on welfare reform and have made outline provision for pension changes even though key questions — in particular, on whether second pensions will be compulsory for all — remain unanswered and in dispute. Mr Darling said such questions would be addressed shortly in a pensions green paper. "We are dedicated to modernising the welfare state and reshaping it for the

future so that it provides opportunities for those who can work and security for everyone who needs it," he said. The Welfare Reform Bill, which will set out many of the overall changes, will legislate on two aspects of the green paper: provision for women to have a share of a husband's pension on divorce; and creation of a framework of "stakeholder" pension schemes for people without occupational or personal pensions. The bill will also establish a single gateway for the benefits system, requiring all claimants to attend an interview with a personal adviser as a condition of benefit entitlement. Most controversial are likely to be the planned changes to disability and widow's benefits. While the latter will be extended to widowers, entitlement will be curtailed for men and women over the age of 45 without dependent children. Similarly, while state support will be improved for people with more severe disabilities, particularly for children, it will be limited for other disabled people.

Numbers of people receiving incapacity benefit are expected to fall by 170,000 as a result of a new condition that the claimant must have paid a minimum number of national insurance contributions in one of the two previous years. In addition, any person receiving a private pension or health insurance payment of more than £50 a week will face a clawback of incapacity benefit. These changes are being seen by some critics as an erosion of the contributory principle of social insurance, and a shift towards greater means-testing. Ministers have sweetened the pill of the changes, which will save some £1.3 billion in the long run, by guaranteeing that no existing claimants will be affected. The disability lobby has won the battle for legislation to set up a commission to enforce disabled people's rights. The charity Scope welcomed the announcement as "some of the best news disabled people could have had". However, disability groups made clear they remained deeply concerned at this pos-

sible impact of the benefit changes. Richard Kramer, head of campaigns at Mencap, the learning disability charity, said: "We are extremely worried by the move towards means-testing for some disability benefits and the tightening of eligibility of benefit for others." James Strachan, chief executive of the Royal National Institute for Deaf People, warned that the welfare-to-work drive was "dangerously flawed" for disabled people. "They risk being caught between the rock of losing benefits and the hard place of employers' prejudices compounded by an imminent economic downturn," Mr Strachan said. Welfare advisers voiced similar anxieties. The Queen's Speech also confirmed plans to introduce next October the working families' and disabled person's tax credits, helping low-paid workers in place of the existing family credit and disability working allowance. A family in full-time work will be guaranteed a minimum £190 a week.

Labour MPs welcome sound of death knell for lords' voting rights

Ewen MacAskill, Chief Political Correspondent

LABOUR MPs making their way from the Commons to the Lords yesterday to hear the Queen's Speech relished the prospect of achieving a long-held ambition: the abolition of hereditary peers. Contrary to the tradition that the Speech should be heard in silence, one promised to shout "Tally-ho" when the Queen delivered the fateful sentences. But they will have to wait. For tactical reasons, the bill will not be introduced until after Christmas, part of the complicated manoeuvring that will mark the punishing passage of this constitutional bill through Parliament. The death-knell for the peers that so pleased Labour MPs came midway through the Queen's Speech. She described the bill as "the first stage in a process of reform to make the House of Lords more democratic and representative". Within minutes of her sitting down, Labour and Tories were digging in and, later in

the Commons, the Conservative leader, William Hague, accused Tony Blair of attempting to turn the Upper House into "a House of Cronies". The bill, when it comes, will be extremely short, about one page, to make it less amenable to the inevitable delaying and wrecking tactics that will be employed by peers. It will amount to little more than a few simple sentences announcing the removal of the right of hereditary peers to vote in the Lords. A few more clauses will have to be added to reinstate the right of those same hereditary peers to vote in general elections and to stand as candidates. The bill will not affect the other aspects of peerage, such as the names, degrees or rules of succession. Still to be negotiated is whether the hereditary peers will be allowed "club rights" — continued use of the libraries, dining rooms, bars and other facilities of the Lords. Another Government carrot could be a promise to turn some of the hereditary peers into life peers, who will keep

their voting rights. As the bill is introduced next year, a white paper will be published setting out draft proposals for the Lords after the hereditary peers have gone. Conscious that he will be open to accusations of being able to flood the new Lords with Labour-appointed peers, Mr Blair is likely to promise to give up his sole right to appoint life peers. As part of the transitional arrangements, an independent committee will be set up to appoint peers from various walks of life, from bankers to trade unionists, from councilors to church leaders. Mr Blair as well as the Conservative and Liberal Democrat leaders will make political recommendations. At the same time, the chair and remit will be announced of a Royal Commission to investigate alternatives to the Lords, ranging from a fully-elected one to a fully-appointed system to a fully-elected one. The favoured option at present among ministers is a mixed system. The reason for delaying the bill until after Christmas is to achieve progress on other bills, including the European

election bill defeated by peers in the last parliamentary session and which is to be introduced quickly. And then it is on to Lords reform. The Tory leader in the Lords, Lord Cranborne, has said he will stand by the Salisbury convention, which prevents peers voting down manifesto commitments. Labour yesterday insisted the convention also covered attempts to delay or wreck a bill, but the peers may dispute that interpretation. The Conservatives reiterated yesterday that they will oppose Lords reform not in defence of the hereditary principle but because of the failure of the Government to specify what a new-look Lords will be like. If the Government gets the Lords reform bill through, it will be law next autumn, but if the peers can delay it long enough, it will have to wait until 2000. Viscount Cranborne, Tory leader in the Lords whose Cecil family has been prominent in British politics since the days of Elizabeth I, said the bill had tinged the State Opening with great sadness.

Russian establishment grieves loudly for an outspoken liberal it shunned before she was murdered

Democrat gets hero's burial

James Meek in Moscow

RUSSIA'S old imperial capital, St Petersburg, had a farewell to murdered politician Galina Starovoitova yesterday with all the remorse and dignity that has accompanied the laying to rest of so many other admired victims of unknown killers.

The burial of the 52-year-old democrat in the Alexander Nevsky monastery, where the graves of national heroes such as Pyotr Tchaikovsky and Fyodor Dostoyevsky are, was attended by thousands of ordinary people and by the country's first three post-Soviet prime ministers.

"The duty of the authorities now is to punish those who carried out the murder," said one, Sergei Kiriyenko. "The rest depends on us."

But the grief was matched by elements of shame and hypocrisy. The truth is that Starovoitova — an uncompromising liberal — was liked by only a very narrow group of Russians when she was alive, only with her death has a wider part of society been shocked into realising the depth of the abyss the country now faces. The daily newspaper *Izvestiya* yesterday called it Russia's first openly political killing.

The television bulletins gave heavy coverage to the funeral remarks of another former prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, who said: "These shots were fired at all of us. I want to say once more that the authorities must acquire true authority in order to defend their citizens."

Yet Mr Chernomyrdin is a man whose support for buying local Russian tanks like the president of Bashkortostan, Murtaza Rakhimov, went against everything Starovoitova stood for.

The burial had to be delayed for several hours because of the number of mourners who wanted to file past the victim's open coffin at the city's Ethnographic Museum. Police struggled to hold back the crowds trying to force their way in to pay their respects.

"Ordinary people should honour her memory and



Large crowds form around the coffin of Galina Starovoitova in St Petersburg to pay their last respects

PHOTOGRAPH: ALEXANDER GEMANICHUK

make sure this never happens again," said Vadim Olshchey, manager of a construction company. He added cynically: "There's little hope of that in our country."

Starovoitova, an MP in the Duma, was shot dead on Friday night on the stairs of the block of canal-side flats where she had her St Petersburg home. The building was a few yards from the headquarters of the riot police.

In a sign that there was not much chance of catching the killers, let alone their pay-

masters, investigators said yesterday that they had gained little information from the MP's aide, Ruslan Linkov, who was seriously injured in the attack.

Most Russian newspapers commented bitterly yesterday that not a single one of the series of contract killings of journalists and MPs since the collapse of the Soviet Union had been solved. There have been a few arrests but no one has been charged — mainly because, it is popularly believed, the trail leads to the

very top of the new Russian establishment.

It was bitterly cold in St Petersburg yesterday, and the northern city's short winter day was already drawing to a close as Starovoitova's coffin was lowered into the ground.

In a strangely inappropriate gesture, a rifle salute was fired. The national anthem was played. The grave was close to that of a prominent city businessman, Dmitri Filippov, murdered a month ago.

The current prime minister, Yevgeny Primakov, was represented at the funeral service by one of his deputies, Valentina Matvienko — one of the few women in the senior ranks of Russian politics, a group that grew smaller still on Friday.

"Forgive us who hold power, forgive us, your colleagues who were unable to protect you," she said.

Starovoitova's son, Platon, said of the murderers: "I believe they won't escape the anger of the people. Sooner or later, the people will crush them underfoot."

The mood of the Russian people, however, is not easily judged. Few heeded the call to switch off their house lights for two minutes as a mark of respect. And at local elections at the weekend in the southern region of Krasnodar there was a heavy vote for an anti-Semitic party.

Referring to the events of the past few days and to Boris Yeltsin's illness, a commentator on Moscow News, Lyudmila Telen, wrote: "The president is sick. What about us — are we so healthy?"

Bonn urged to seek trial of Kurd rebel

Ian Traynor in Bonn and Martin Walker in Brussels

BONN came under mounting pressure yesterday to seek the extradition from Italy of the Kurdish rebel leader, Abdullah Ocalan, who is wanted in Germany for murder.

While Washington pushed for the trial of a man it regards as a terrorist, Rome blamed Bonn for the gathering crisis in relations with Turkey which is dragging in the rest of Europe.

Britain and other European Union members are heading for a serious test of their vaunted common foreign policy, following the European Commission's determination to show solidarity with Italy over threats of a trade boycott by Turkey.

Ankara was warned yesterday that it could face retaliation from all EU members if it went ahead with threats to ban Italian products in protest at Italy's refusal to hand over the leader of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK).

The Italian constitution does not allow extradition to countries that have the death penalty.

The row also threatens to set back years of hopes of EU membership in Turkey, whose application to join was rejected last year.

The Ocalan case is the first challenge for the new German government's emphasis on human rights in foreign policy. But the potentially explosive impact in Germany of having Mr Ocalan brought for trial is outweighing the legal and human rights factors.

Italy blames Bonn for the crisis, saying that Mr Ocalan would not have been arrested when he arrived in Rome on November 12 had it not been for an international arrest warrant issued by Germany in 1990.

Chancellor Gerhard Schröder is to have talks on the issue with the Italian prime minister, Massimo D'Alema, on Friday in Bonn.

Mr Ocalan, who was reported yesterday as claiming he was arrested after Israeli intelligence tipped off the Italians, is accused of orchestrating the murders of

several PKK defectors in Germany's Kurdish community. There are almost 3 million Kurds in Germany and 500,000 Kurds, including an estimated 5,000 activists of the PKK, which is outlawed in Germany.

A senior government source in Bonn said Germany did not want Mr Ocalan extradited: if he had to stay in Rome it might help to launch a peace initiative between Ankara and the Kurdish rebels.

But newspapers yesterday accused the Schröder government of giving in to terrorist blackmail to avoid trouble at home. The opposition Christian Democrats demanded a German trial.

Before talks with the EU Commission in Brussels yes-

'It is very important that he face justice — we would prefer that this take place in Turkey'

terday, Mr D'Alema said: "If Turkey wants to get closer to Europe, it should give signals for a peaceful resolution of the Kurdish conflict and for the respect of human rights."

Jacques Santer, the Commission president, said that EU members would hand together to protect Italian trade. Any Turkish boycott "would breach its 1963 Association Agreement with Europe, and breach the 1995 Customs Agreement. It would be important to organise consultations among the member states on retaliatory measures", he said.

Italian television broadcasts have been hacked out in Turkey, the defence minister has declared a boycott on Italian arms purchases and other bans have been threatened against Italian exports.

But as EU governments tried to cool the row yesterday, Madeleine Albright, the US secretary of state, stressed that while "it is very important that he face justice — we would prefer that this take place in Turkey".

Leader comment, page 3

New lead may solve 'missing family' puzzle

Phillip Willian in Rome and Duncan Campbell

THE mystery of a missing Italian family that has baffled investigators for nearly a decade could be solved because of a random traffic check carried out by a London policeman.

Ferdinando Carretta, aged 36, was stopped on his scooter at the end of October. A check with Interpol revealed that he was one of a family of four that vanished from their home in Parma, Italy, nine years ago.

The disappearance in August 1989 of Giuseppe Carretta, a respected accountant who worked for a glass manufacturer, his wife, Maria, and their two sons, Ferdinando and Nicola, has continued to intrigue the Italian press ever since.

The Carretta parents and their younger son had left home in a camper van on

August 4, 1989, for what they told neighbours would be a three-week holiday. The older son, Ferdinando, disappeared a few days later after cashing two cheques for a modest amount of money. He was reported to have been suffering from a mental breakdown at the time his family disappeared.

Three months after the family's disappearance, their van was found parked in a street on the outskirts of Milan and an inquiry was launched.

The magistrate responsible for the initial investigation was Antonio Di Pietro, later to become a national hero spearheading Milan's anti-corruption drive.

Mr Di Pietro became convinced that the Carrettas had not disappeared of their own accord and gave orders to search for their bodies on rubbish tips near Parma and Milan.

Sightings were subsequently reported in Brazil,

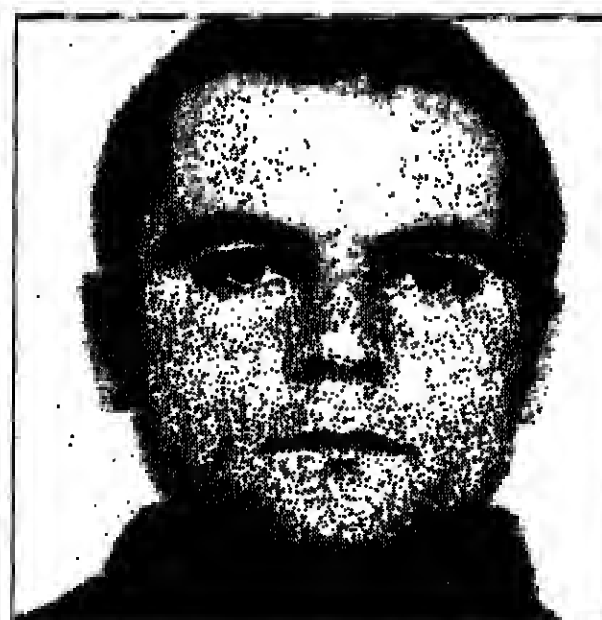
Venezuela and various islands in the Caribbean.

When Ferdinando Carretta, who now lives in east London, was stopped in a routine check in October, he had apparently been working as a courier as well as in a number of other odd jobs.

As he was listed as a missing person on Interpol's files, the Italian authorities were contacted. Investigators from Parma flew to London to interview Mr Carretta. Details of their visit have only just emerged.

Accompanied by Scotland Yard officers, the Italians visited Mr Carretta at his home. According to reports in Italy, he told the Italian police that he had had no contact with the rest of his family for the last nine years.

Francesco Saverio Brancaccio, the Parma prosecutor responsible for co-ordinating the investigation, yesterday refused to discuss details of the case.



Ferdinando Carretta: Disappeared nine years ago

News in brief

Sydney row hits Olympics

THE high-profile director of the organising committee for the Sydney Olympic Games in 2000 resigned last night, claiming he was the victim of political infighting and vilification, writes Christopher Zinn in Sydney.

Rod McGeoch quit despite pleas from the Australian prime minister, John Howard, for the fractured committee (Socog) to unite in the national interest after weeks of destabilising leaks.

Mr McGeoch, who led Sydney's bid for the games, said he had left in the interests of the event after it was claimed that he had demanded a fee of nearly \$3,000 to speak at a United States delegation about the Olympics.

"Our international image in the Olympic community and elsewhere has suffered in the past fortnight and I'm doing my part to make it stop."

The decision came as a surprise to his board colleagues, including Kevin Gopee, a member of the International Olympic Committee, who said the resignation was unnecessary.

The latest blow to Socog follows recent reports of "fat-cat" salaries and compulsive secrecy within the organisation. Pickicking has increased in the run-up to the New South Wales state election in March.

The state's opposition leader, Peter Collins, said the resignation showed how politicised the 15-strong board had become.

Congo leader meets Pope

THE Pope met the Congolese president, Laurent Kabila, in the Vatican yesterday and expressed hope that the war sweeping his country would be ended swiftly by negotiation. Congo's government is fighting Rwandan and Ugandan-backed rebels. — Reuters.

become. "Rod McGeoch was one of the driving forces behind the successful bid," he said. "I think this was a real tragedy that [he] has been unceremoniously executed by the Labor Party. This is nothing more than political assassination."

'Jackal' ends hunger strike

CARLOS "the Jackal" has ended a 20-day hunger strike in a Paris prison. His lawyer said yesterday that this was because former Palestinian comrades had urged him to stay alive and keep up the fight.

Carlos, whose real name is Ilich Ramirez Sanchez, is serving a life sentence for the murder of two French counter-espionage agents. He stopped eating to protest against his solitary confinement and to highlight his claims of harassment by guards. — Reuters, Paris.

Cable network to target 'economic powerhouse'

Oprah's sets up women's channel

Mark Tran in New York

OPRAH WINFREY, the daytime chat show queen, joined forces with other leading women television executives yesterday to launch the first cable network aimed exclusively at a female audience. Oxygen is scheduled to start with the new millennium on January 1, 2000.

Ms Winfrey, the best-known of the trio behind the project, is one of America's most successful entertainment celebrities thanks to the enormous popularity of her daytime chat show. But the other two women also have strong track records.

Marcy Carrey, of Carrey-Werner-Mandabach, a television production company, was responsible for such comedy hits as *The Cosby Show*, *Roseanne* and *Third Rock From the Sun*. The third partner, Geraldine Laybourne, built the children's channel Nickelodeon into one

of the most successful on cable.

"Women are the unrecognized economic powerhouse in this country. They now control over 70 per cent of all consumer spending in the United States," said Ms Laybourne.

"By building a new brand for women on television and online, Oxygen can be today's equivalent of the 1950s back fence — where women can learn, relax, meet, talk, plan, have fun and manage their increasingly complicated lives."

The partners are planning a network that will offer material ranging from comedies and films to business and personal advice focused on women. The 24-hour, seven-day-a-week network will have different blocks of programmes for different parts of the day. The morning will be mostly chat with a heavy dose of interaction through the Internet.

The midday chunk will emphasise issues for working women. Ms Laybourne said



Oprah Winfrey is one of three women behind Oxygen, a new channel for women. One of her partners, Marcy Carrey, helped produce such hits as *Roseanne* (pictured).

research predicted that "by the year 2000, 90 per cent of new businesses will be started by women". However, it could be asked how working women will find the time to watch.

A teenage block will fill the late afternoon, followed by a comedies and then films that may include commentary

from a female host.

A cable channel designed for women marks a further hit of balkanisation in American television. There are channels for history buffs (*The History Channel*) and science buffs (*Discovery*). But no one has attempted to target watchers exclusively by sex.

Playboy unveils century's century

Julian Borger in Washington

PLAYBOY jumped cheekily on to the pre-millennial bandwagon yesterday, publishing a list of the century's 100 sexiest women as selected by readers.

Judging by their choices, the readers have long memories. Tastes and sexual politics may have changed over the years, but Playboy men are still steadily nostalgic for the golden days of Hollywood when a busty bottle-blond was the epitome of feminine beauty.

There were no prizes for guessing the winner, Marilyn Monroe was Playboy's "steamier siren in the world", recalling the distant era — arguably the magazine's own heyday — when cleavage was crucial.

Jayne Mansfield, another voluptuous Hollywood seductress, was second, followed by Raquel Welch and Brigitte Bardot.

The supermodels of today's fashion pages hardly raised the pulse of the average Playboy loyalist. Only Cindy Crawford made it to the top 10. B-movie blondes — Pamela

Anderson (9th), Bo Derek (9th) and Kim Basinger (12th) — were well ahead of Elle Macpherson (23rd) and Claudia Schiffer (59th). Intellectuals and wits did not figure large.

Perhaps the most telling reflection of Playboy's ageing readership was the fact that the highest-ranked Briton on the top-heavy list was Joan Collins (38th). Presumably Playboy subscribers were thinking wistfully of films like *The Bitch* and *The Stud* when they filled in their voting forms.

The only other Britons were Naomi Campbell at 69th, and Diana Dore (92nd), who scraped in just ahead of Dolly Parton.

Kate Moss, the poster-girl for contemporary waif-like chic was not placed at all. Even Mata Hari (99th) did better than that, decades after her death, when hardly anyone can remember what she looked like.

A spokeswoman for Stern, Ms Moss's model agency, said yesterday: "It's very surprising not to see a few more British, up-to-date faces in there but we are talking about Playboy here."

'Worm' turns on bride of a day

Foreign Staff

FEW people expected the marriage between the American basketball star Dennis Rodman and the former Playboy model Carmen Electra to last long. But no one thought it would survive just one day.

Mr Rodman has filed a two-page document with the family court in Orange, California, saying that he was of "unsound mind" when the wedding took place in Las Vegas on November 14.

According to the local paper, the Orange County Register, Mr Rodman also cited "fraud" in the court paper as a reason for seeking to have the marriage annulled and said that it only lasted a day — the wedding day itself.

After the ceremony, Mr Rodman's agent said the star was too drunk to know what he was doing.

The Chicago Bulls basketball star, aged 37, is nicknamed "The Worm" and is known for his flamboyant off-court activities including cross-dressing. Ms Electra, aged 25, is a former Baywatch actress and host of an MTV programme, *Singled Out*.

The couple dated for about nine months before the wedding. Mr Rodman's lawyer, Gerald Phillips, was quoted in yesterday's New York Post as saying: "Dennis alleges he was so inebriated at the nuptials that he didn't know what he was doing." Two days after



Dennis Rodman: cites fraud

the wedding Mr Rodman's agent, Dwight Manley, had said of the bride: "Obviously, anyone that would marry somebody that was intoxicated to the point that they couldn't speak or stand, had ulterior motives of some sort."

The bitter legacy of wartime atrocities is dominating the run-up to an historic summit this week between two old Far Eastern enemies

Beijing waits for Japan's apology



Five Chinese prisoners of war are hurled alive after the fall of Nanjing in 1937

PHOTOGRAPH BY IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM

Airtours tries to repeat recession-beating ploy

Janice Warman

PACKAGE tours group Airtours yesterday announced a 2000 million convertible bond issue and ambitious expansion plans along with its impressive annual profits.

Airtours, which reported pre-tax profits up by 17 per cent to £140.3 million on a turnover which has increased by 32 per cent to £3.054 billion, remains bullish about its prospects in the event of a recession.

"The industry grew in the last recession but it was the director Tim Byrne. The trick is to make sure the number of holidays on sale is no more than those sold."

The company announced in September that it would reduce the number of its packages for summer 1999 by up to 5 per cent.

Airtours, whose operations include Cresta, Bridge and the newly purchased Direct Holidays, attributed its profits growth to strong British demand for holidays abroad, buttressed by the

soaring pound, and to its joint venture Costa Cruises.

It was not so lucky in Scandinavia, where both Airtours and Thomson rushed to offer more holidays after another operator closed down.

"Hindsight is a marvellous management tool," Mr Byrne said. "We were faced with people booking late and paying little. The only consolation was that Thomson had suffered, too."

However, bookings for the 1998-99 winter period were running 17 per cent ahead of last year. British bookings for the same period are 6 per cent ahead of the previous year, the group said. Overall UK bookings for next summer are 5 per cent ahead.

Airtours is the world's largest provider of inclusive holidays, with more than 50 per cent of its holidays sold outside the UK. The group's acquisitions during last financial year took it into a further eight countries; it also bought a fourth ship and ordered four new aircraft.

Missile maker wins £1bn deal from UAE

Mark Milner

ANGLO-FRENCH missile maker, British Aerospace-Matra Dynamics (BMD) has won an order thought to be worth in excess of £1 billion from the United Arab Emirates.

The deal for air-to-air and air-to-ground missiles and electronic counter-measures equipment is one of the largest received by BMD and is equivalent to more than one year's turnover for the company.

Work on one of the missiles being bought by the UAE — the air-to-ground Black Shaheen — will be carried out at Bae factories at Stevenage, Filton and Glasgow.

"Not only does this contract involve very large sums for BMD, it turns the spotlight on three of the company's new programmes and its real investment for the future, extending our range of products in export markets," said BMD managing director Fabrice Bregier.

Though BMD was one of the first moves towards a

rationalisation of Europe's defence industry, the big prize — the three-way merger of Bae, Dasa, the defence arm of Daimler-Chrysler, and France's Aerospatiale — has proved harder to achieve.

Anglo-German frustration has prompted speculation that Bae and Dasa might go ahead without Aerospatiale, though leaving the way open for the French company and other European defence companies to join later.

Yesterday French Finance Minister Dominique Strauss-Kahn said an initial two-way merger could simplify progress toward the creation of a European aerospace entity but thought it unlikely. He told a parliamentary aerospace committee such a merger would offer a less troublesome route to an eventual three-way partnership including Aerospatiale.

One factor which is believed to have slowed progress towards a pan-European merger is the French government's reluctance to withdraw completely from Aerospatiale's ownership structure.

Gaza's runway to statehood

David Starrock in Gaza

EVERYBODY danced, even Mohammed Dablan, the feared head of Palestinian security in Gaza, when the planes began landing yesterday at the new Yasser Arafat International Airport.

Taking a big — if symbolic — step towards sovereignty, the new airport's namesake revelled in a morning of pomp, red carpets, foreign jets and outpourings of emotion.

The day's ceremonies began with the arrival at 8.30am of an Egyptian plane. Several times Mr Arafat walked from the VIP lounge — a glittering domed affair decorated by Moroccan craftsmen and intended to resemble Jerusalem's Haram al-Sharif mosque — to the tarmac to greet aircraft from Egypt, Morocco, Jordan, Spain and one carrying the European Union's Middle East envoy.

But the emotional high point came when one of Palestinian Airlines' two Fokker-50s taxied to a halt. After landing, the pilot and co-pilot raised Palestinian flags above their heads as they descended the stairway.

A chant of "Allahu Akbar" (God is Great) rose from a crowd of thousands of Palestinians who had overwelmed security and pushed their way on to the airfield to join the celebrations.

"You are a beautiful sight," Mr Arafat told the Palestinian crew.

"This is a preparation for the declaration of the Palestinian state," the Palestinian leader added, grinning broadly and flashing a victory sign. "God willing, airplanes will fly from this airport carrying pilgrims to Jerusalem."

Until yesterday Mr Arafat had to travel overland from Gaza to El-Arish airport in Egypt if he wanted to take a plane. Today he will fly out of Gaza to Paris.

The airport's opening, built with \$50 million of deferred loans, was held up for 20 months because of the freeze in peace negotiations with Israel. And radar equipment, kept waiting in Israel's Ashdod port, had still not arrived by yesterday; the control tower remained empty.

Although Palestinians see the opening of the airport as a step towards statehood, Israel insists that should Mr Arafat



An Arafat gives a victory sign at the opening of what is seen as a gateway to Palestinian territories

PHOTOGRAPH BY AGF, HANA

declare a Palestinian state on May 4 next year — the date on which the five-year Oslo interim accords expire — it will annex large parts of the West Bank.

That threat was backed up by the presence, albeit low-key yesterday, of Israeli security personnel at the airport. As part of the conditions for its opening, Israel will monitor all incoming and outgoing freight and passengers.

Nations regarded as hostile to Israel, such as Libya, Iran and Iraq, will not be allowed to fly in, although countries that do not officially recognise the Jewish state, such as Saudi Arabia, will be allowed to operate.

Israeli citizens will, for the moment, be prohibited from using Gaza airport for security reasons, even though operators are offering enticingly low prices to Morocco and elsewhere. Some Israeli businesses are already pressuring the government to open up what they see as a southern airport for the country.

Israel will continue to control the airspace and has the authority to shut the airfield at any time.

Israeli and Palestinian security agents approached the Egyptian jet together yesterday and collected the passengers, including Egyptian cabinet ministers and the actor Adel Imam.

Throughout the morning, there were spontaneous celebrations. As a police marching band played bagpipes, airport workers, policemen and cabinet ministers held each other's hands and danced in a circle. Some kissed and embraced their neighbours, others wiped away tears and

participated at the present rate the figure will reach 30,000 by 2002.

In sub-Saharan Africa, where the picture is worst, 34 million people have been infected and 12 million of them have died. Last year there were 4 million new infections and 5,500 deaths every day. Half of those infected are women.

There has been a 10 per cent rise in infection worldwide. In Britain, according to the charity Aids Care Education and Training, the 12,000 people living with HIV in 1992 rose to 20,000 this year, and it an-

Jonathan Watts in Tokyo

JUST hours ahead of today's historic visit to Japan by the Chinese president, Jiang Zemin, diplomats from the two countries were still struggling to overcome the bitter legacy of the past.

During Mr Jiang's six-day visit — the first ever by a Chinese president — Japan is expected to apologise for its wartime aggression, allowing the two nations to move towards a new relationship.

But at midnight last night — with the Japanese prime minister, Keizo Obuchi, due to meet Mr Jiang tomorrow — the two sides were still negotiating on the wording of an apology.

According to Japanese newspapers, Tokyo has offered Beijing an expression of "deep remorse and heartfelt apology" for its action during the war. As was the case for the apology made last month to the South Korean president, Kim Dae-jung, it would be made in writing and be more specific than previous

statements. China is said to have demanded, however, that the apology include the word "invasion" — an acknowledgement that would risk inflaming Japanese right-wingers.

A last-minute compromise remains likely, but the delay in reaching an agreement highlights the difficulties confronting the two leaders, as they attempt to set relations on a new footing.

Tomorrow's summit is likely to avoid any reference to the new security arrangements drawn up last year by Washington and Tokyo. Beijing is enraged that these defence co-operation guidelines not only give Japan its most prominent military role since the second world war, but also potentially cover Taiwan, over which the Chinese claim sovereignty.

Beijing's hopes to elicit summit undertakings that would isolate Taiwan also appear to have been dashed. Japan is said to have refused to make a commitment to the "three noes" policy — no independence for Taiwan, no recognition of a separate Tai-

wan government and no support for Taiwan membership of international organisations.

Tokyo will only reconfirm a 1972 communique in which it expressed "understanding and respect" for Beijing's territorial claims over the island. According to Japanese officials, the two leaders will sign a document agreeing to co-operate on arms reduction, nuclear non-proliferation, environmental problems and Asia's economic crisis.

Agreement on the latter is likely to be superficial. Beijing and Tokyo have vastly different views of their roles in solving the Asian crisis. Japan is angry that it has been blamed for the turmoil despite committing \$30 billion (\$18 billion) to the worst-hit countries, while China has won international kudos for maintaining the value of its currency.

"The perceptions are all wrong," said one Japanese foreign ministry official. "It is in China's own interest not to devalue; yet they are treated as heroes, while we are the villains."

Memories cannot fade as pain of massacre goes on

John Gittings in Hong Kong reports on the scars left by the Rape of Nanjing when the invading Japanese army butchered 100,000 Chinese civilians

"Oskar Schindler of China". Together with a small group of Western missionaries, doctors and businessmen, Mr Rabe sought to protect thousands of Chinese who fled for safety into the part of Nanjing where most foreigners lived.

"The raping of women," he wrote, "even occurred right in the middle of the women's camp in our zone, which had between 5,000 and 10,000 women. One was powerless against these monsters who were armed to the teeth, and who shot down anyone who tried to defend themselves."

An official Chinese report, compiled in 1982 but only published for internal circulation, describes the entry of the Japanese army. "The crowds of refugees, in the

streets... became battle targets," it says. "Using machine guns, rifles and revolvers, the Japanese soldiers indiscriminately shot at these people."

Many Chinese residents had fled the city: most of those inside were refugees already fleeing from the Japanese.

"In Nanjing," says Ms Chang, "babies were thrown in the air and bayoneted on the way down."

Some people were buried waist-deep and torn apart by Alsatian dogs; prisoners were used for bayonet practice.

The Chinese figure of 300,000 killed in Nanjing is disputed by Japanese scholars. The post-war Allied trials of Japanese war criminals set the total at 140,000. No one can begin to calculate how many civilians were killed in the rest of China in the eight years of war.

Harassed by communist

and other guerrilla forces, the Japanese launched savage reprisals in a policy that was described as "kill all, loot all, and burn all". Millions of peasants died directly or indirectly and thousands of villages were destroyed. Japanese experiments in germ warfare, mostly conducted near Harbin in Manchuria (north-east China), are also well documented. A special team of researchers, known as Unit 731, injected Chinese prisoners with biological weapons, including plague, anthrax and cholera.

Japanese doctors used prisoners as guinea-pigs for experimental surgery. Human resistance to extreme cold was tested by leaving prisoners in icy conditions and pouring water over them.

The activities of Unit 731 were obscured after the war when Japan agreed to exchange for making their data available to the US. Little attention was paid to evidence collected by the Soviet Union, which had occupied Manchuria.

Chinese students in the 1960s frequently staged anti-Japanese protests — they also denounced Chinese officials accused of having close business connections with Japan. More recently, the disputed Diaoyutai (Senkaku) Islands have aroused strong protests, especially in Hong Kong. Beijing sometimes encourages anti-Japanese sentiment, but is wary of it becoming a medium for wider protest.

The entire city of Nanjing fell silent on December 13 last year, the 60th anniversary of the massacre. Eighty-year-old Pan Kaiming, who carries a visiting card with the words "Nanjing Massacre survivor", told journalists how he escaped death under a pile of bodies, and found the Yangtze river was running with blood.

Mr Jiang's visit to Japan today comes 20 years after the two countries signed a treaty of "peace and friendship". But memories like these ensure that the past lives on.

Aids 'wiping out world's economic gains'

Sarah Bosley Health Correspondent

THE Aids epidemic is out of control in many parts of the world, wiping out gains in the quality of life, infecting men, women and children around the world every minute and killing 2.5 mil-

lion people last year, a United Nations report said yesterday.

Clare Short, the International Development Secretary, said at the report's launch in London that complacency in the West about Aids was misplaced. Infection was rising almost everywhere, even in the United Kingdom. Europe

and the United States, which could afford costly drugs to keep the disease under control.

The report by the joint UN programme on HIV/Aids (Unaids) said half of the 5.8 million people infected by the HIV virus last year were children and young people aged 15 to 24 — some because they were

born to women with HIV, some through sex and others through using dirty needles to inject drugs.

There has been a 10 per cent rise in infection worldwide. In Britain, according to the charity Aids Care Education and Training, the 12,000 people living with HIV in 1992 rose to 20,000 this year, and it an-

icipates at the present rate the figure will reach 30,000 by 2002.

In sub-Saharan Africa, where the picture is worst, 34 million people have been infected and 12 million of them have died. Last year there were 4 million new infections and 5,500 deaths every day. Half of those infected are women.

online

Every Thursday in the

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The Guardian

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Diary

Simon
Bowers

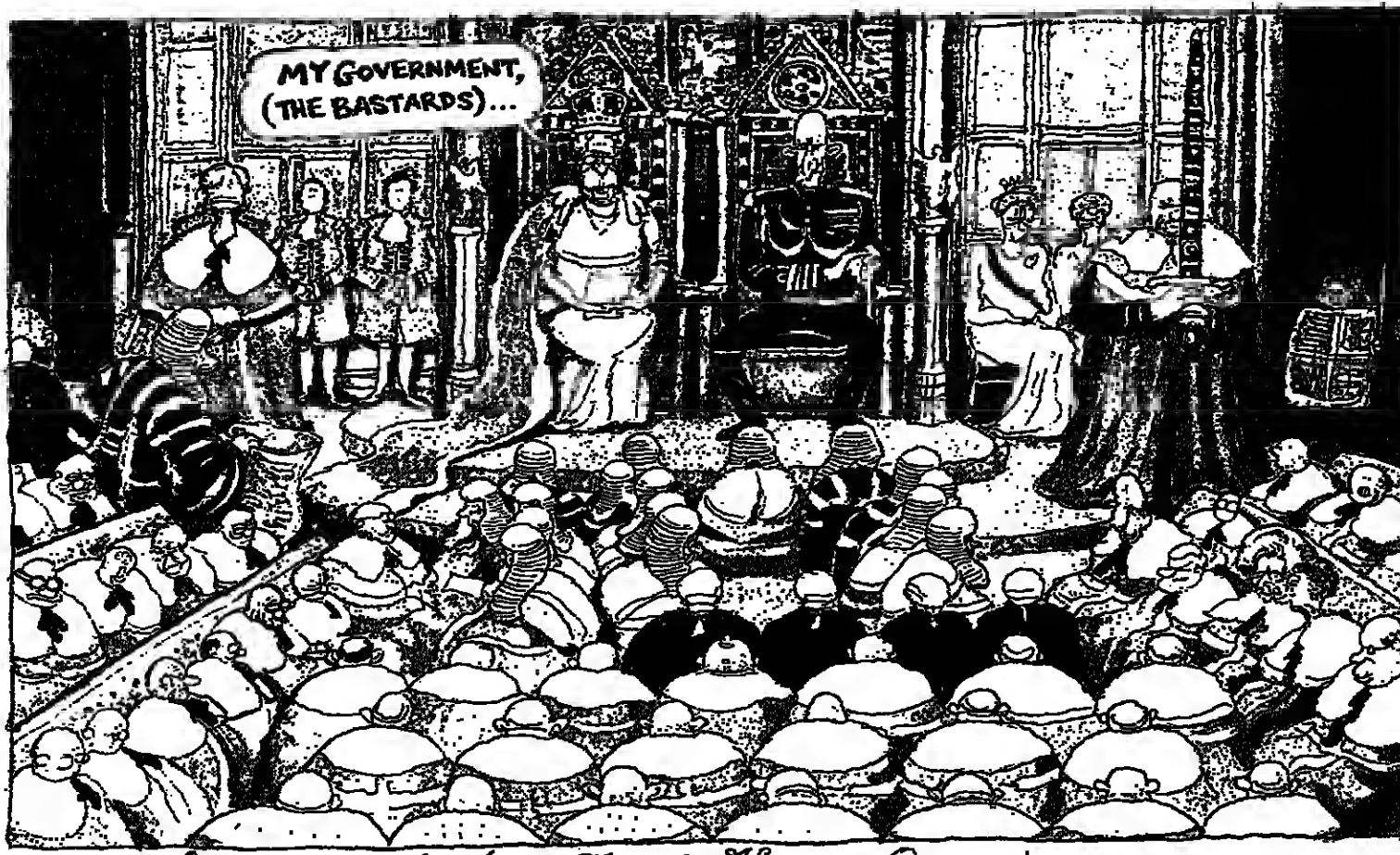
A CALL comes through concerning a Diary item from last week. "Wednesday 18, Mr Bowers," says the caller. "Do you know what I am referring to?" I do not. After a pause another clue is offered: "The Tricycle Theatre document." Ah, yes. A paper, you may recall, was dropped by an audience member attending Tariq Ali and Howard Brenton's anti-Blair satire, *Ugly Rumours*, at the Tricycle Theatre in Kilburn a fortnight ago. On the document, stamped "secret", is a list of several names and private numbers in the Cheltenham area — home of GCHQ. The caller, it transpires, is DC Matt Synonds of the Special Branch. "The government agency I'm involved with is obviously keen to get hold of this document," he says, "to check its veracity." We are, of course, cooperating with inquiries.

AN interview with Christina and Neil Hamilton in the Independent catches the Diary's eye. Aside from the occasional outburst against "the gargoyles of Farrington Road", the conversation is relaxed and flows easily. The Hammies, speaking almost as one now, appear happy with life at the Old Rectory, deep in Cheshire. They chat about the secret language they are developing together, the novels they are writing and small economy measures they are adopting to see them through leaner times ahead. (Neil has cancelled all subscriptions except the Spectator and Living Marxism; Christie, meanwhile, is cutting back on birthday cards. "I recycle," she says. "I don't get them any more, but some coloured cards.") Messages of support for the couple continue to flood in, especially for Christie. "I get some lovely fan mail from people," she says. "Apparently, I am a gay icon at the moment, which is nice." Christie is a lovely, well-read, and well-meaning woman. How sweet they are. God bless their cottages.

AS promised we return to our Book of the Month, Dempster's *People* (Rebels Press, £22.99), the latest book — bought up by the Daily Mail for £75,000 — from Nigel Dempster, which has mysteriously had its serialisation halted. We rejoice the book they tried to dump as Mr D bumps into his old pal Jonathan Aitken. "By coincidence we were both staying at the Windsor in Melbourne," he explains. "Seeing me kicked out for an early morning run around the city, Jonathan asked if he might join me. For the next four days we set off around the streets in the morning, with Jonathan timing the run on a stopwatch. After the third day he said we got back to the hotel. What? Nigel? What gem of gossip did you prize out of this fortuitous encounter? ... Good, that was three minutes faster than our initial run!" Hmm.

WHEN the National Meat Hygiene Service (a key confidence building measure for the crippled industry) was established under the previous government, Michael Portillo, then a junior at the Treasury, fired off a letter to Maff minister Gillian Shepherd. Were the £5m start-up costs, he asked, really justified? "At a time when we have agreed tight targets for savings on your domestic agriculture programme," he wrote, "I wonder whether this is not a reason to pause for thought." "What fine political instinct, Mr P," "understand," he continues, "that John Redwood" (then the much loved Welsh Secretary) "has also expressed concern at the proposed creation of another centralised body." Well done, boys. A fine example of knee-jerk Thatcherism.

RUSSIAN prosecutors are questioning Moscow gallery owner Sergei Tarabov, reports Bizarre magazine, after he served a life-size cake in the shape of Lenin at one of his shows. Twenty Communist MPs complained his cake broke a law that forbids the insult of national figures. In his defence, Tarabov claimed the cake recognised the pivotal role played by Lenin, and was in fact a celebration of the man.



Statement by the Artist Formerly Known as Queen

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At last, Labour's tribe has an enemy. Let's put the lowing herd out to grass

Jonathan
Freedland

THE very phrase says it all. The Queen's Speech. Not ours, but hers. Like the Royal Mail, the Royal Navy, or the Royal Courts of Justice, the very grammar of our national life tells us who owns what and who's in charge. Even an address outlining the plans by which we'll all live does not belong to us, nor even to those we elect, but to the Queen. As the lady said in her opening words, it's not our government. It's "my government."

That was the essence of yesterday's proceedings and just witnessing it was enough to make the egalitarian and democratic blood boil. The colour and brocade of the ceremony, the flummery and pantomime, were incidental. The business of walking backwards, the presence of Goldstick-in-Waiting, the elaborate bowing and scraping of the courtiers and regal hangers-on, were not the real of force. They were merely visual illustration of an ugly political fact: hereditary is still hard-wired into our constitution.

The Government is now, as of yesterday, officially at war with that fact. It's gearing up for a bloody battle which could dominate the year ahead, pitting centuries of genetic privilege against the most elementary concepts of democracy. It is a battle Labour must win. For the eradication of hereditary from our political system is not some abstract side-issue of "constitutional reform" or a mere modernisation of an awkward anomaly. It is an essential step on the way to making Britain a fairer, more equal society.

You knew it was important when the hereditary peers.

usually such sticklers for proper, antiquated procedure, broke protocol and greeted the Queen's announcement of their imminent demise with a rumbling, lowing sound, like a herd of cows murmuring the arrival of rain.

It was a priceless moment, the bespectacled monarch reading words placed in front of her — delivered into the royal hand by the Lord Chancellor, resplendent in his technicolour dreamcoat. "A Bill will be introduced to remove the right of hereditary peers to sit and vote in the House of Lords. It will be the first stage in a process of reform to make the House of Lords more democratic and representative."

The irony of the event was exquisite, the person who sits at the very pinnacle of hereditary privilege forced to proclaim the execution of a caste whose defining principle is the same as her own. Her Majesty's words had barely escaped the royal lips when the *sotto voce* booing began. The message from the genetically-advanced lords was clear: we will not go quietly.

Yet they must go. As Tony Blair told the Commons yesterday, their presence amounts to "the feudal domination of one half of our legislature."

It doesn't matter about their dodderiness, nor even their outright senility. Nor is it critical that they have a built-in Conservative majority. Their very offence is the statement they make about our country: by their permanent hold on those red benches they say that Britain is a nation where power lies not with the people but in the hands of a tiny elite blessed with aristocratic blood. Even

if every hereditary peer in the realm was young, alert and of impeccable radical credentials they should still have no right to sit in our legislature — unless we have chosen to put them there.

In the modern world, it seems odd even to have to make this argument. The French convinced themselves of its truth in 1789, the Americans a few years earlier. Yet somehow we never got around to it. We have retained the connection between DNA and political power. If we do not break that link now, then all the money in the Treasury coffers, all the welfare policies and social exclusion units in the world, will be in vain. For Britain will remain an inherently unequal society — a place where birth brings power, as a matter of formal, constitutional right.

The blue-bloods will use every tool they have to cling on, just as they always have. They will delay and defeat in the chamber, hoping to grind the Government into submission. Outside, they will beguile progressives by suggesting their energies would be so much better devoted to "real" issues like jobs, schools and hospitals.

BUT we must not listen to that. That has been the trick of the British ruling class through the ages, offering cushions and comforts for those lower down the social scale — all the while refusing to yield their position at the top of it. They will distract our attention, kidding us into believing we can make a genuine difference with some poverty programme here or social scheme there, while the hier-

archic structure of our society remains comfortably intact.

So now is the time for all radicals and progressives, no matter their disagreements with Blair and Blairism — even on the question of the final shape of the second chamber — to stand side-by-side with the Government. Even those who can't stand New Labour's insistence on conformity and obedience should take heed: it's time to get tribal.

The year ahead could prove to be a turning point for the Government. Until now, the drive has been toward inclusion, ushering newcomers into the ultra-spacious Blair tent. No one has been kept out of the coalition: Chris Patten and Michael Heseltine get jobs, Enoch Powell a glowing obituary, Jiang Zemin a warm meeting. What Labour has lacked is an enemy.

Privately the prime minister recognises the problem. He and Gordon Brown are said to pace the room, wondering why their economic philosophy has not taken root in the public mind. It lacks "definition," they say. They know that Thatcherism was "put up in lights" by what it fought: Arthur Scargill, the miners, the unions. Blairism has no near-term enemy to give it the illumination of contrast.

That's about to change. Labour's natural supporters, who have found themselves repeatedly at odds with this Government, now have cause to rally to a banner they can march behind. They want the last trace of blue blood washed out of our system — and they shall stand with Tony Blair until the job is done.

Money doesn't buy happiness
but poverty makes you miserable

Micawber was right

Polly
Toynbee

THE menu for the year ahead is a fine array of hills to polish and improve everything. Yes, it's a radical reforming programme. Yes, it keeps no manifesto promises. The restless, relentless search for efficiency and efficacy sweeps on, in perpetual motion from government to government.

What's it all for? This week we glimpsed a slight shift in political language: 13 environmental indicators will join the annual economic figures. The birds in the sky, the cleanliness of rivers, the freshness of the air will all be measured: economic success is not the only goal.

But this doesn't go far enough. There is only one indicator that matters — are people happier? It's a question now being asked by researchers around the world. A huge European survey will be published soon — and the results are depressing. In Britain we are four times richer than we were 30 years ago, but no happier. The Italians have become the unhappiest. We laugh less than we did; we used to laugh on average 18 times a day, now it's only six. (This statistic itself causes anxiety: have you laughed your fair ration today?) Depression has increased 10-fold.

The founding fathers wrote the Pursuit of Happiness into the American constitution. Citizens have the right to pursue it, not the right to have it — nor governments a duty to provide it. But what is government for if not to maximise well-being? How can they know if they are succeeding without measuring the general happiness of the people? The growing disillusion with politics and contempt for politicians may spring from some sense that what our leaders promise — more wealth — is increasingly irrelevant to how most people feel about their lives.

Can governments make people happier? Researchers studying identical twins brought up separately, found strikingly similar attitudes for happiness. They estimate that half of happiness is in the genes, but that still leaves circumstance a major factor and there are many circumstances government can greatly influence for the better.

All the research shows the poor can be made measurably happier quite easily. The only people money makes happier are those with significantly less than the majority. Once above the poverty line, extra money makes no difference. Professor Robert Lane of Yale, studying the quality of life, says incomes may go up and down in jolts, but as long as people are above poverty, they adapt very quickly. "There is no correlation between happiness and income level" and hugging more commodities only ranks 11th in a list of life's satisfactions. After poverty, unemployment is the next greatest cause of misery. So democratic governments are entirely right to set reduction of unemployment as a goal as important as economic growth.

BUT what of the great majority — those of us neither poor nor out of work — is there anything governments can do for us? Marriage or close long-lasting relationships make people happy and lack of them makes people depressed. But this Government deludes itself when it pretends it can do much about that. Significant extra funds for Relate may help — but some things are rightly beyond the long arm of the state. Professor Michael Argyle, who has studied happiness for years, says

churchgoers are happier than the rest — (maybe unhappiness is ingratitude to God?) — but the Government can hardly make that obligatory. He says every kind of sport is deeply hedonic, the effects long-lasting: enticing sports facilities everywhere would reap rich rewards on the national happiness index. Music makes people happy, but the effects don't last once its over. Best of all is dancing — he does Scottish reeling every week and reports "high levels of euphoria". It combines exercise, music, community, touch and rules. All the other happiness researchers I spoke to placed dancing very high on their lists. One suggested a revival of bandstands in parks with much public dancing, a delightful idea.

The over-work culture is something the state can change, if it had a mind to. Insanely long working hours — Britain has the highest in Europe — coupled with anxiety about keeping jobs has made us work-obsessed to the increasing exclusion of much else. What use is more money with less and less time? We have too few public holidays, something the Government could ordain at a stroke. But every time they slide the slave-drivers. A national happiness index would arm the Government to fight off OBE warnings that a lower working week or more holidays would reduce profits: time is worth more than money.

One LSE researcher estimated recently that a 35-hour week could mean the employment of a million more people. Most of those working over 44 hours want to work



After poverty,
unemployment is
the next greatest
cause of misery

Happy birthday to me and Lope, that is. But I hope the Law Lords ruin the general's day

Happy birthday

Isabel Hilton

I WAS never entirely convinced by the pseudo-science of astrology, but I admitted that it had a sort of seductive charm. Even as I told myself it was nonsense, I would sneak to look at my horoscope, seeking confirmation of what I liked to believe about myself. Sagittarians, fond of travel, courageous, outspoken and creative — who wouldn't want to identify with a dashing character like that?

But one day, this smug little pleasure turned sour. I had noticed, many years ago, that I shared a birthday with the 17th-century Spanish playwright, Lope de Vega. It was a matter of indifference to him, but I felt it added considerably to the lustre of my celebration. But when I discovered Lope's and my birthday was also shared by General Augusto Pinochet, November 25 was never quite the same

again. I would think of General Pinochet on our joint birthday, wherever my Sagittarian compulsive travel has taken me. Once I was in Havana, capital of Fidel Castro's Cuba, from whose malign influence General Pinochet has claimed to be saving Chile in 1973. Another year, I was in Haiti whence the dictator had recently fled, though the bloodshed had not stopped. As I raised a glass with the haroque balcony on the Oloffson Hotel in Port-au-Prince, the image of Pinochet seemed to hover, unhidden, at the table.

Today, neither the general nor I will celebrate our birthdays at home. I am in Santiago, he in London. Of the two of us, I suspect, I have the better deal. The ladies from the posh suburbs here haven't forgotten him though. They gather every evening to hurl abuse at the closed doors of the Spanish embassy for that nation's temerity, as they

see it, in tarnishing the image of the general with such unpleasant subjects as torture and murder, topics that polite society in Chile has learned to avoid.

They are planning a huge party in the city later this afternoon. They hope it will be a victory celebration. If it is not, they seem more than up to breaking a few windows.

There has been a steady stream of visitors to the general's bedside in London bearing carefully wrapped gifts — Italian ties, I read, a book or two. The present his supporters really want, of course, is in the power of the House of Lords when they rule on Spain's extra-

dition request today — Pinochet's return in triumph to Chile.

The present relatives of the "disappeared" hope for justice at last — or at least a little of it after 25 years of lies. Of Chile's thousands of disappeared, only a handful of earthly remains has ever been found. The whereabouts of the rest, like many dark secrets of Chile's recent past, never been revealed. Perhaps, as he unwraps his parcels, the general might consider giving something back to those relatives, even if only a few fragments of bone.

I doubt if General Pinochet will be reading his horoscope this morning. I shall try to steer clear of my own and poor Lope de Vega long ago ceased to have a future to predict. He cannot, of course, defend himself either against the charges that his character was formed in the same celestial way as the general, so, with the permission of

the great man's shade, I shall do it for him.

The work for which Lope de Vega is best remembered is *Fuenteovejuna*, an extraordinary play about collective resistance to tyranny. It's the story of a village community (*Fuenteovejuna*) which assassinates the local tyrant, a military man as it happens, after he has raped a young village girl on her wedding night. When the villagers are tortured to make them reveal the assassin, the reply was the name of their community — *Fuenteovejuna*.

It's not the sort of thing that I imagine General Pinochet has in his video collection. But on this of all birthdays, I shall be raising my glass to the thought that the spirit of *Fuenteovejuna*, the village that finally made the tyrant pay for the suffering he caused, will outlast Pinochet's legacy, even here in Chile.

Happy birthday, Lope — wherever you are.

سكزا من الامم

1520

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'We need journalists just as we need worms in our compost heap'
Dennis O'Neill, Letters

Real reforms in new bills

Services and voters do well

IT IS too early to say who will be most affected by the parliamentary package unveiled by the Queen yesterday, the privileged or the poor. An hereditary peerage which has held on to its privileges for 900 years is not going to give up without a fight as the "hereditary hooligans" have already demonstrated. We disliked the principle of the government proceeding with stage one — the abolition of the right of hereditary peers to sit and vote in the House of Lords — without giving a clear indication of what was going to replace them. As we feared, the unemancipated ermine rump has purported to become the defenders of democracy, fighting patronage and a house of "Tony's cronies". Phoebe. Yet what has become clear is the correctness of the Government's strategy: ending the anachronistic concept of an aristocratic chamber is an important end in itself and prevents the peers from dividing reformers over stage two.

There is no justification for the privileges which the peers have enjoyed. They have no legitimacy, these 750-odd hereditary peers, among whom there are only 18 Labour and a Liberal Democrat supporters. It is wrong in principle and wrong in practice when the decisions of a democratically elected chamber — such as the Commons vote to reduce the age of consent of gay young men — are reversed by an unelected and unaccountable House. Britain is in urgent need of a vibrant, independent second chamber but its legitimacy will only be achieved by its

members being selected by some form of democratic election. The 600 life peers, with no party having an absolute majority, are an acceptable interim arrangement. The Prime Minister has already signalled his intention of giving up his sole power of patronage. There is talk of an independent appointments committee in the transition period. Meanwhile, ministers were right to set up a royal commission with the injunction to produce a second chamber plan within two years. There is only one message to draw from Tory opposition: they remain the defenders of unacceptable privilege.

The future of the peer is still unclear. Several internal ministerial disputes have still to be resolved. Ministers are right to seek to reduce dependency. They are right to extend the welfare-to-work programme to one-parent families and the disabled. And they are right to steer the social security system towards areas of greatest need. But there are several contradictions in their current strategy. As the feature on page 31 of our Society section sets out today, there is a contradiction between placing more emphasis on means tests when you are trying to increase the rewards for work. You can only promote self-help if the state guarantees a solid floor. Currently, ministers are too ready to undermine self help by withdrawing state support too quickly. They are wrong to withdraw incapacity benefit from people who have been unemployed for two years. They still have not done enough for people who cannot find work. And they must make compulsory the contributions to the stakeholder pensions, otherwise there will be no incentive to save.

It is disappointing to see earlier promises delayed by at least a year: a freedom of information act, a food standards agency, and new curbs on the car. Yet there are plenty of reforms which progressives can

salute: the end of a two-tier NHS, a fair rights bill which gives workers more protection, a disability rights commission, local council reform, a restructured youth justice system, and a second vote on lowering the age of consent for gay sex. Remember, too, reforms already in the pipeline, not least the three-year £40 billion extra for health and education which begins in April. Public services can rejoice and citizens celebrate an overdue modernisation of their country.

Turkey's war

Extradition is not the answer

IT OFTEN takes a single human drama to highlight a forgotten conflict and this seems to be happening with the case of the Kurdish guerrilla leader, Abdullah Ocalan. Turkey's heavy-handed effort to use economic sanctions to back its demands for his extradition from Italy has started to rebound. It has focused new light on Turkey's brutal war to suppress Kurdish rights and prompted the Italian Prime Minister, Massimo D'Alema, to make a ringing call for Turkey to start a political dialogue with the Kurds.

Three weeks ago the European Commission produced its latest report on Turkey's progress towards accession to the European Union. Barely covered in the media at the time, the document was damning. In south-eastern Turkey, where the army and police are waging war against Mr Ocalan's Kurdish Workers' Party (PKK), the report said torture in police stations, disappearances, and extra-judicial executions were regularly recorded. The army had destroyed villages and brought about large-scale forced evictions. These atrocities stem from Turkey's failure to recognise the Kurds. While it

accepts a few thousand Greeks, Jews, and Armenians as legitimate minorities, the same is not done for at least 8 million Kurds. They cannot have radio or television stations or even schools in their own language.

Throughout the Kosovo crisis the Serbs frequently charged the West with a double standard. Turkey's treatment of the Kurds was far worse than anything the West accused the Serbs of doing in Kosovo, they said, yet as Turkey was a member of Nato the West turned a blind eye. The Serbs were right, though their prescription was not. Rather than supporting Belgrade on Kosovo, Western governments should put as much pressure on Turkey to change its policies as it has on Yugoslavia. The priority is to start a dialogue and look for a non-military solution, as the European Commission report said. Mr Ocalan called a unilateral ceasefire three months ago in the hope that Turkey's new chief of staff would respond in kind. Instead, the Turks pressed Syria to end the sanctuary they giving Mr Ocalan. This was what led him to seek refuge in Italy. A main difficulty in the current crisis is that the United States supports Turkey in wanting Mr Ocalan put on trial. But this is misguided. The European Commission's call for a political settlement is correct and Mr D'Alema should stand firm on his line.

ties, they focused on that firm's products. Yet biscuit-eaters, whether or not they are big dippers, know there are marked differences between the brands. Ginger nuts differ in gingeriness, custard creams in "cream" and as for fruit shrewsburies, try a comparative count of the currants. You cannot really generalise absorption rates as between a Hobnob and a piece of genuine shortbread and the research surely registered how very different are the effects of soaking a plain as opposed to a chocolate-coated biscuit — and you can forget your election to the Fellowship of the Royal Society if you ignore the small but perceptible variation in speed of melt between milk chocolate and plain, let alone flat and wavy-topped varieties.

This is not, clearly, rocket science and its utility is open to debate. It's fascinating, yes, but scientists can take too much to heart Sir John Maddox's otherwise excellent dictum to the effect that it is an essential part of the researchers' task actively to persuade the public of the interest of what they have to say. Science is funded for all sorts of reasons and even the eminences on the grants committees of the Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council have been known to put their money behind some projects. There's no harm in some science being done for PR's sake. And there may be virtue in doing more of the science and technology of everyday life. The serious point is that the more we are aware, even if only in outline, of the choices made by food processors among materials and their properties the more able we will be to assess risk and cost and safety ... and taste. No one is likely, it's true, to come to much harm by overdosing on Abernethy or Garibaldi, at least beyond the obvious effects on teeth and girth, but the science of little things may aid the bigger understanding.

Letters to the Editor

The worm that turned

SO Penny Junior was hurt by the reactions of parts of the media to her book. (The bitter bit, November 23). Perhaps she is unaware of the attitude of the public towards most journalists. We tolerate their vulgarity, their intrusiveness, their discreditable behaviour and the fact that they are grossly overpaid, only because without their dogged pursuit of some issues we would never have known about the Hamiltons, the Aikens and the Nixons of this world. Whilst we would be reluctant to introduce members of the Fourth Estate to our families, we need them just as we need worms in our compost heap.
Dennis O'Neill, Salisbury, Wilt.

A PROPOSED slogan (Back 24/7/British Beef — you'd be mad not to eat it.)
D Cimeron, Stoke-on-Trent.

YOU speculate that "one of the cable and satellite channels must already be considering shifting a news bulletin to 10pm" (Report, November 20). Many of us already have a choice of three half-hour bulletins at that time — BBC News 24, Sky News and CNN.
Ewan Allan, London.

WAS searching the Internet for information on women's protest movements. I keyed in "Ann Clwyd women against pit closures" and my computer proudly announced: "Althavista knows the answer to this — Where can I find free sexy pictures of women's armpits." Is feminism dead, or has Barbara Fallett finally triumphed?
Nicky Horton, Llandudno, Conwy.

Please include a postal address, even on e-mailed letters, and a daytime telephone number.

Indexes of happiness

THE new headline indicators (Quality of Life gets a higher profile, November 24) are a landmark event — but they are not perfect. The New Economics Foundation has worked closely with the Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions in devising this set of indicators and we have been active in other initiatives such as the Index of Sustainable Economic Welfare, which takes social, environmental and economic ingredients of quality of life and expresses them in money terms. This has shown that in recent times, as GDP has grown, quality of life has fallen.

For the indicators to improve quality of life a number of questions still remain. How often will they be reported? Will the reports be released with the same pizzazz as the launch? How will they be integrated into government decision-making? How will "ordinary people" be helped to improve quality of life? The new list will also need to

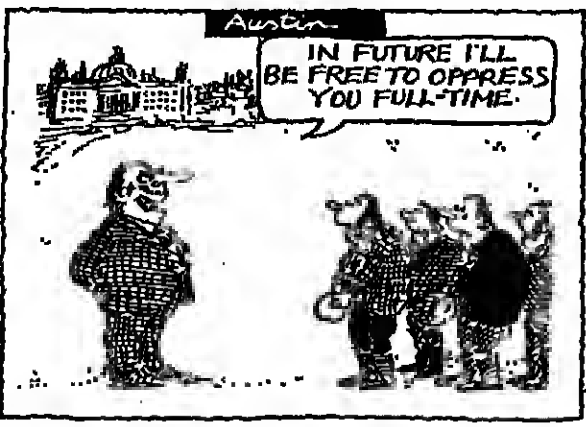
be enhanced over time, covering issues such as the UK's impact on quality of life abroad. Local communities need to develop their own indicators. The indicators should be also used as a basis for the public spending round, so that government departments are reviewing their budgets on the basis of their contribution to quality of life. Monitoring the way the indicators are collected, updated and communicated will be essential.
Ed Mayne, Director, New Economics Foundation.

THE introduction of 13 non-economic performance indicators of national well-being is surely to be welcomed. However, and based on experience in this country and elsewhere, two caveats are worth noting. Making statistics more salient can be unrewarding in political terms. Having talked waiting list figures up in the mid-1980s, Tories found they were a curse when they went up, and no one was interested when the

news was good. Further, there is a danger that the targets come to divert resources from priorities which are not measured but are every bit as important.

Secondly, unless performance indicators are an integral part of the way in which policies are implemented, they don't get used. Hopefully, the measures are just the small but transparent tip of a well-thought through programme linked to objectives that really matter to the quality of people's lives.
Dr Zaid Al-Awad, The Open University.

I AM confused by the indicators chosen by New Labour to measure "quality of life". How does an increase in wild birds in Surrey help me in Gateshead? Isn't a 14-fold increase in car ownership since the 1960s a good thing? Most puzzling, though, is the complete absence of a "whistling delivery-boy" index.
David O'Toole, Gateshead.



A word on behalf of dictionaries

ALL of us working at the Grove's Dictionary offices were gratified by David McKie's comment (November 23) that the 1990 Grove got cut about right as regards relative lengths for composer articles. Size isn't everything, of course: a lot depends on how much information there is, and how much the reader needs — Ockeghem may be as important for his times as Beethoven for his, but give them equal length articles and you'll be dealing with every receipt Ockeghem ever wrote for firewood or MS paper. But nor is it entirely appropriate to think that any

particular edition gets it right. Each Grove aims to reflect the interests of its time and its readership: there can be no absolutes, as we are all aware in "these post-modern times". So please buy the revised edition in 2001, to see how values stand at the turn of the millennium.

May I add a gloss to the tale of the Prague workman who didn't know which bust to remove? Evidently bewildered, he decided to go for the one with the longest nose: as you say, it happened to be not Mendelssohn but Wagner. Stanley Sadie, The New Grove, London.

Iraq alert

DR Douglas Holdstock of Medact (Letter, November 16) stated that "the Iraqi regime misuses the oil-for-food and medicines concession". This is a common and dangerous misconception. Until recently, I was head of the UN Multi-disciplinary Observer Unit for Iraq. In one and a half years of the programme being in operation, and with 151 international observers travelling throughout the country, at no time was any diversion recorded. If this country is going to attack Iraq,

it must do so on the basis of truth not fiction.
Michael Stone, Polruan, Cornwall.

SO the West should do more to help the Iraqi opposition to get rid of Saddam (Leader, November 24). Let us remember the last time the West intervened. Don't we have a moral obligation to help the Afghani people out of their misery before indulging in yet another adventure against a strong secular government and sowing the seeds of new Bin Ladens? Dr A Azim El-Hassan, London.

Why the government's new plan will further disable us

I MUST strongly dispute David Walker's contention (Analysis, November 24) that "Government's plans for the disabled are remarkably close to what campaigners have been arguing for years".

The Government's own figures show these changes will cut £715 million from spending on disability benefits. They will particularly hit disabled women, and those without secure employment who become disabled later in life. More disabled people will be forced to rely on means-tested benefits. People who become disabled over 20 will no longer be able to claim the Severe Disability Allowance. Incapacity benefit will no longer be paid to those who have not worked in the preceding two years — 170,000 people. For the first time, an element of means-testing is introduced into Incapacity Benefit.

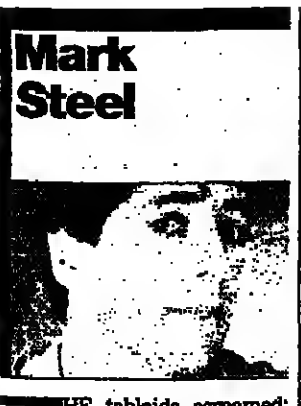
Although claimants at present only face a compulsory interview, who is to say that this

will not develop into a compulsion to accept work? Caroline Gooding, Chair, Labour Party Disabled Members' Group.

As a registered disabled person suffering with chronic pain, I have personal experience of negativity towards the disabled within the government itself. In 1994, when my health deteriorated to the extent that I had difficulty working at a desk, my GP ordered rest.

The response of local managers at the Benefits Agency was to try and sack me. This was despite a wealth of evidence from medical practitioners that I would be more than capable of working from home under a scheme introduced by the Benefits Agency itself. Eventually, my case reached the permanent secretary for the civil service in Whitehall and she found in my favour. Ian-Paul Ashworth, Sheffield.

Spark plug



THE tabloids screamed: "It's the Winter of Discontent all over again." They were referring to the Jubilee Line, and in a way they're right.

Because the strike has taken us back to the bad old days of the seventies, when newspapers printed torrents of ridiculous lies about the unions. Apparently the electri-

cians are "industrial gangsters", "wreckers", and "dressed in donkey jackets and carrying placards". Next week the papers will say "In a shameful reminder of the dark days of Jim Callaghan's government, striking electricians are refusing to bury the dead." It's not our job, said thoughtful pickets when we gave them a corpse and asked them to bury it.

The project, it seems, has been "infiltrated by militants" and "troublemakers" are "surrounded by burly pickets". How do outside agitators recruit these infiltrators? Do they hold interviews, after which unsuccessful applicants receive letters stating: "While we were impressed with your wrecking credentials, we felt that you weren't quite burly enough to fulfil our requirements." Enclosed is our pamphlet *Ten Easy Ways to Increase Your Burly*.

In any case, you either are or aren't an electrician. You

can't "infiltrate" them. Unless you carry a box of fuses, keep saying "Cor dear oh dear, someone's made a right mess of this", and hope you get away with it.

The real cause of the strike was concern over health and safety. A group of electricians, working underground, emerged for their tea break one day to discover the area was packed with fire engines, and they'd been unable to hear the alarm. Twelve of the men were particularly vocal. Management then threatened to move 12 men from that site to "increase productivity". By coincidence it was the same 12.

So the workforce, worried at the implications for safety, refused to comply. Aren't trade unionists irrational? Fancy imagining there could ever be a fire in an underground station. Tony Blair, concerned that the line is ready as part of the Millennium Dome project, has intervened, saying that management has to be

"allowed to get on and do their job". I suppose what he means is that the workforce should follow the traditional procedure for health and safety, which is to have the fire first and then the inquiry. Do things the other way round and nothing would ever be ready on time.

In one sense the tabloids are right about conditions on the sites being in the control of outside agitators. Their name is Bechtel, the American company notorious for anti-union methods, who were brought in by John Prescott to take control of the project from London Underground in September.

Half of Ronald Reagan's cabinet had worked at Bechtel, which has an annual turnover of \$11.3 billion, and was brought in to deal with unions and the Channel Tunnel project. An ex-manager, John Nierbout, claimed in yesterday's Financial Times that the company speeded up production through its ability in "prepar-

ing documents". But trade unionists on the project talked about excessive pressure from foremen.

ISN'T it quaint how we have different words for the same things in Britain and America? Taps and faucets, nappies and diapers, excessive pressure and preparing a document. The tabloids, rather than dwelling on Bechtel's past, attack one of the Jubilee Line strikers as a "thug" and, even worse, as "ruddy-faced". On a previous job he'd swung a heavy-duty steel chain at a bus, they claimed when they approached him.

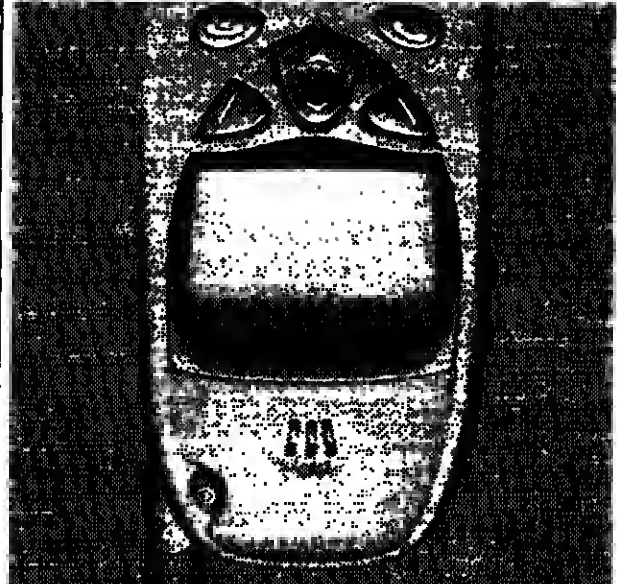
According to witnesses, when the electrician denied this allegation, a reporter pushed him, saying "What are you going to do about that, are you going to hit me as well?" I do not know whether or not the reporter was burly. They also claimed that the electricians earn £1,150 a week, when they take home £400 for a 48-

hour week, during which they spend several hours a day working in trenches surrounded by rats.

So there are two possible reasons why the 12 men have been supported by the other 500 electricians. One is that, as the tabloids claim, workers have been "visited". The other is that they fear that as the millennium approaches, management's concern to get the line ready for the big day might result in corners being cut on health and safety. The sparks know their only defence against a company like Bechtel is to stick together.

And if the millennium project isn't ready on time, Tony Blair can get round the problem by issuing a statement: "Before deciding on the date for the new millennium we interviewed all the possible dates, and the most suitable candidate turned out to be March 23, 2003."

"And I'm not a control freak."



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The Earl of Devon

Hereditary who kept to his castle

THE affable 17th Earl of Devon, who has died aged 92, was the sort of aristocrat the Lords over hereditaries is supposed to be about. In fact, he was one of the minority of territorial magnates stretching back into feudal times — an ancestor was one of the founding Knights of the Garter — not one of the post-1875 retired politicians and party contributors given feudal-sounding titles and attending ceremonies in Gilbert and Sullivan set-ups.

As a commentary on these Johnnies-come-lately, the 17th Earl never took the Lords seriously enough to speak or vote there in the 62 years from when he took his seat in 1936. "I'm far more use here in Devon where everyone turns to me for help, than I would be talking nonsense in the House," he said in 1993. With no Lords' party affiliation, he was not called up by Tory Chief Whips to vote down other parties in crucial debates.

His family history, which merited a chapter in Gibbons' *Decline and Fall*, stretched back for nine centuries. An earlier Courtenay ancestor was on crusade with the King of France in 1147 and the family provided three Latin Emperors of Constantinople.

After they quarrelled with King Louis VII and lost their French estates, a Courtenay came to England in 1162 to be

welcomed by Henry II, whom he joined in the original conquest of Ireland, and was settled on land in Berkshire. His brother married Margaret Beaufort, she was John of Gaunt's granddaughter. That wedding took place in 1430.



Because of inheritance duties after the war they opened a school of domestic science, with the family butler as instructor in caring for silver, china and glass

land-rich daughters of other nobles and at its height the castle guarded 50,000 acres. Firmly feudal and arrogantly Norman, the family fought their corner fiercely. On one occasion, in a dispute with the Mayor of Exeter, they built weirs across the River Exe, effectively cutting Exeter off from the sea.

Although territorial magnates, the Courtenays also extended their role into the church, as Bishops of Nor-

wich, Exeter and Winchester. The family grew and survived by calculating which would be the winning side in any war and how this would affect their rivalry with other local territorial magnates, like the Bonvilles. The Courtenays came through the War of the Roses by changing sides while the Bonvilles were wiped out.

Because the Courtenays were seen as old feudal nobles by the bourgeoisie-backed Tudors, they suffered in ensuing decades from imprisonment and head-lopping. Earl Edward, from the Tiverton branch, was released from prison and seen as a husband for Catholic Mary. In 1553 she re-granted him the Earldom and he bore the Sword of State at her coronation. But her intimates preferred Philip of Spain, Earl Edward plotted with Elizabeth but was arrested, imprisoned and exiled to Padua where he soon died, probably poisoned. This ended the Tiverton branch, whose land went to the Russells, future Dukes of Bedford.

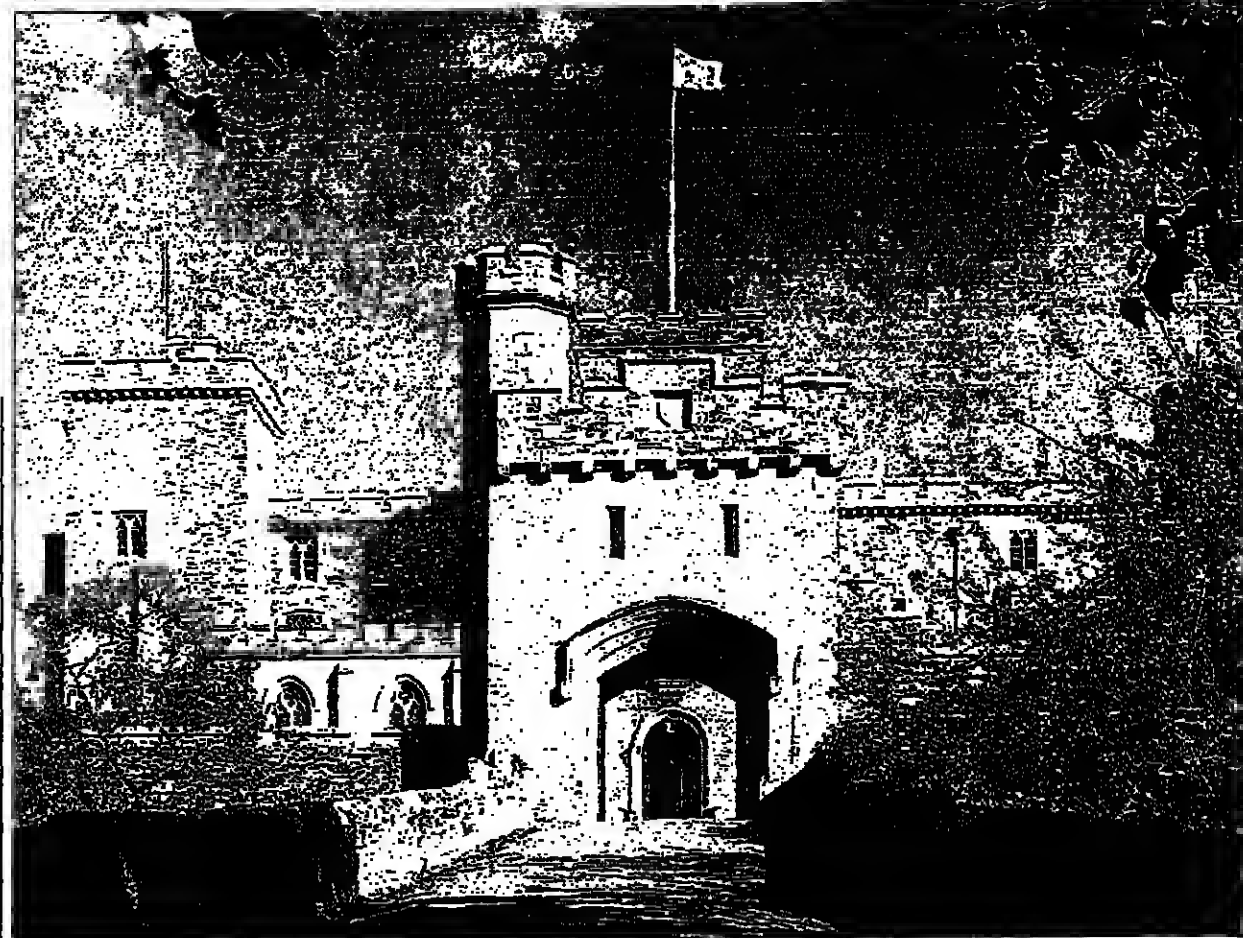
The civil war all but did for Powderham Castle. For half a century it lay desolate and empty. Its comeback began with the landing of William of Orange nearby at Brixham.

The Courtenays continued to live at Powderham, as knights, then baronets, and from 1782 as viscounts. Finally the notorious 3rd Viscount, "Kitty" Courtenay, who had been the object of

William Beckford's homosexual infatuation, realised that he could reclaim the 16th-century earldom as 9th Earl of Devon.

Against that bloody and colourful background, the birth of Charles Christopher Courtenay was fairly downbeat. He was the son of Marguerite (Silva) and Frederick Courtenay, Rector of Honiton. His father only became the 18th earl because his two older brothers died before him. Young Charles's education was traditional — Winchester College and Sandhurst. He inherited the earldom in 1935,

was commissioned in the Coldstream Guards in 1936, but left two years later. Next year he married the statuesque Venetia, the former Countess of Cottenham and ex-wife of his cousin, the 6th Earl of Cottenham, who had cited him as co-respondent in the uncontentious divorce case. The 17th earl rejoined the Coldstream Guards at the outbreak of war, but was wounded in action in 1943. After the war and due to heavy inheritance duties, the young couple opened a school of domestic science with Venetia as its principal and



A landed family since feudal times... Powderham Castle and (left) detail from a 1950 portrait of the 17th earl

cases were sold to the V&A for \$465,000 but allowed to stay on show in Powderham Castle.

The 17th earl is survived by the Countess, a descendant of Captain Bligh, their daughter and their son, Hugh Rupert Courtenay, an assiduous writer of letters to newspapers, who has run the estate for many years and who becomes the 18th earl.

Andrew Roth

Charles Christopher Courtenay, 17th Earl of Devon, born July 13, 1915; died November 19, 1998

Janet Arnold

Giving costume drama a whole new dimension

HISTORIC costume in British television, movies and on stage — can be roughly divided into two periods: before and after Janet Arnold. Before Arnold, who has died aged 66, even the best designers imagined the clothes of the past mostly in two dimensions, as a picture. After Arnold researched and produced *Patterns of Fashion* (1964) and *A Handbook of Costume* (1973), a generation of design-

ers learned to think in three dimensions, as sculpture. She made the connection between the way that clothes shape bodies, and those bodies then shape behaviour and even thought: she persuaded the company at the recreated Globe Theatre on London's Bankside that it was worth wearing the true garb of Shakespeare's time all the way down to the skin, as it would change their understanding of the plays, and she was right.

This summer the Globe acknowledged her work with the first Sam Wanamaker Award — she was also a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries.

Arnold had accrued her knowledge slowly: an education in arts and crafts, design and teaching, certificate by diploma through the West of England College of Art, Bristol University, a year in the London workrooms of couture clothes makers Victor Stiebel and Frederick Starke, and experience in the Mermaid Theatre wardrobe. She had loved theatre since a *Chamberlain* pantomime in childhood, but she wanted actually to know what people looked like in the past, and how they felt about how they looked.

So, while working as a lecturer at Avery College of Education in the 1960s and 1970s, she handled and drew the real things, clothes which had survived as heirlooms and curiosities to become museum pieces. Anyone interested in costume knows the garments in her *Patterns of Fashion* much better than their own clothes: she had sought out perfectly representative outfits from the 17th-century to the 1940s in galleries and museums in Europe and the United States, measured each scrap of cloth in their meticulously so as to provide scaled cutting diagrams of the pieces, and drawn the complete clothes, and their construction details, with a



Janet Arnold after receiving the Sam Wanamaker Award in 1998, and (right) her drawing of an 18th century stomacher at Snowhill Manor from *Patterns of Fashion*

graceful precision which allows anyone using her books to feel that they have total access to the dresses. And her *Handbook* shows just how they would have been worn.

The way she once was so much her passion that over the years she ended up locked accidentally in store-rooms in quest of a guest and went on screen on BBC2 to demonstrate the lost and tricky skill

of starching a Tudor ruff. She became a living database for museums and TV designers in period drama: there were over 100,000 slides in her collection, every one invaluable. In 1969-1971, she helped set up exhibitions of costumes for the BBC series *The Six Wives of Henry VIII* and *Elizabeth R*, both of which owed big debts to her discoveries.

In the real Elizabeth I, Ar-

nold recognised a monarch who used magnificent clothing as a theatrical display himself and set the tone for some of the radical alternative therapy that was to come. Carol continued to take patients well into her nineties. When her eyesight began to fail she finally gave up her consulting room and settled in her bungalow near Sevenoaks.

Every June she gave the annual Open Way lecture — the last only four years ago. Retirement gave her the opportunity to write more and after several false starts she produced *That Why Child*. A fascinating semi-autobiographical work it includes her extraordinary series of Peacock Paintings which lay at the heart of her own analysis.

Tudor court, her wonderful book *Queen Elizabeth's Wardrobe Unlock'd* (1988), which records, pearl by spangle, ensembles so glamorous as to make Vogue seem dowdy.

She just about scraped a living as a freelance lecturer, and was given at various times a research fellowship at West Surrey College of Art, a Jubilee research fellowship and then a Leverhulme research fellowship at Royal Holloway College, and a Paul Mellon travelling scholarship. But her authority in her field was always total, and she was asked to teach, lecture and date garments all over the world: the grave clothes of the Renaissance Medicis in Florence were entrusted to her care, and the Swedes would ask no one else to study on the 1620ish suit of Gustavus II.

Two more volumes of *Patterns of Fashion* are complete and ready for publication. And at the Victoria & Albert Museum (where she knew the costume collection to the last brass hook and eye), there will be a retrospective exhibition of her work next year.

No husband, no family, but many friends, she never failed to reply to a genuine request for information.

Ethel King

Janet Arnold, costume historian, born October 6, 1932; died November 2, 1998

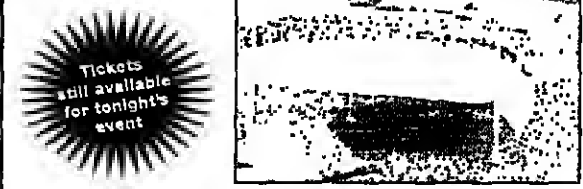
A Country Diary

TAMAR VALLEY: Bunches of anemones for sale on local produce stalls are in velvety bud, rich colours muted, within a frill of parsley — like sepals. These brilliant winter flowers, picked from two small surviving market gardens, on patches of open ground above the tidal river, grow among rows of cabbages, leeks, strawed-up rhubarb and stacked strawberry cloches, overlooked by gnarled pittosporums. Corms were planted in early summer, protected from rabbits with wire netting, buds emerging from yellow-green leaves on sturdy stems. No longer grown for distant markets, these jewel-like, cheery flowers were once an important source of income for the valley's growers. In the 1950s and 1960s, boxbills were produced in St Dominick (a dozen blooms to a bunch, one-and-a-half to two dozen bunches packed into each box), despatched by train from Saltash for cities in the colder north. Eucalyptus plantations and polythene tunnels, growing pink and strawberries, now dominate remaining commercial gardens. At Lammas Park, by Boethic, densely planted plots of glaucous shrubs are cut in rotation throughout the year, thriving in the damp, mild climate. Sprays of rainily foliage, with elongated or rounded leaves, on fine red or yellow stems, are packed into special 36 inch boxes. Twice a week they go by a lorry to cooling sheds at Heathrow for eventual distribution to florists across England and Scotland.

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Carol Jeffrey

Radical therapy



Jeffrey... letters from Jung

CAROL Jeffrey, who has died one week after her 100th birthday, was a key figure in the growth of alternative psychoanalytic therapy in Britain — a kind of secret resource for the Jungian analytic world. Born while Queen Victoria was still on the throne, she worked all her life in the world of child guidance, therapy and psychoanalysis.

Brought up in rural Worcestershire, she studied at London University then moved to Kent where she became a teacher. It was a time when, even for a married woman, pregnancy led to instant dismissal, lest the bulge of a child should prompt the girls to impure thoughts. Carol was soon looking for a job again.

Recruited into the newly created child guidance service, she found her true vocation. Able to form an instant and uncluttered relationship with even the most disturbed

child, she gradually built up a reputation as an unconventional but successful child therapist.

Even during a stint working in Maidstone Jail as a group therapist, this tiny and vulnerable woman learned to touch the Queen Victoria's nerves and get away with it, purely because of her extraordinary empathy with other human beings.

It is sobering to realise that Carol Jeffrey's real career did not begin until her sixties, following a long analysis with Michael Fordham, Jung's English translator. She had sought out Fordham and had quite a job persuading him to take her on. Her analysis continued for 20 years. During this time she had a brief correspondence with Jung himself, following a dream where she encountered the eminent analyst dressed in a suit of bark.

In the late Fifties she set up the Open Way, an alternative

therapeutic clinic and community. A genuine radical with little respect for authority, she was joined by a number of other analysts, including R D Laing. The Open Way was profoundly influential in the development of Laing himself and set the tone for some of the radical alternative therapy that was to come.

Carol continued to take patients well into her nineties. When her eyesight began to fail she finally gave up her consulting room and settled in her bungalow near Sevenoaks.

Every June she gave the annual Open Way lecture — the last only four years ago. Retirement gave her the opportunity to write more and after several false starts she produced *That Why Child*. A fascinating semi-autobiographical work it includes her extraordinary series of Peacock Paintings which lay at the heart of her own analysis.

Unlike so many Jungian analysts, she was happily married for 40 years and became the mother of three devoted children. A dowser and brilliant interpreter of dreams, she had an almost eerie insight into the minds of her patients. She used to say there was almost no barrier between her conscious and unconscious minds.

Often called an analyst's analyst, Carol Jeffrey was nevertheless an extremely delightful and funny person, who took enormous pleasure in earthy talk about sex and the small things of everyday life.

Capable of intense concentration, in her old age she sometimes appeared almost spirit-like as the light faded at the end of a long analytic day.

Chris Barlas

Carol Jeffrey, psychoanalyst, born October 31, 1908; died November 5, 1998

Birthdays

Nat Adderley, jazz trumpeter, 67; Paul Copley, actor, 56; Sir John Drummond, former director of the Proms, 64; Blythe Duff, actress, 36; Michael Feast, actor, 62; Maria Fyfe, Labour MP, 60; Phillip Harrison, publisher, chief executive, Little Brown, 56; Alan Keen, Labour MP, 61; Charles Kennedy, Lth Dem MP, 39; Ronnie Kenny, operatic soprano, 48; Ian Rankin, author, publisher, 48; Dr Elizabeth Laverick, electrical engineer, 73; Paul Murphy MP, political development minister, Northern Ireland, 60; Tony Neary, rugby player, 50; Richard Seifert, architect, 88; Lord (Bernard) Weatherill, former Speaker of the Commons, 76; Sir Peter Wright, former director, Birmingham Royal Ballet, 72; Prof Frances Young, theologian, 59.

Death Notices

KENNEDY, Margaret, peacefully, at the hospice of The Good Shepherd, Chester, on 19th November, her 44th birthday. Buried in her memory in the Hospice of The Good Shepherd, Chester. Enquiries to Dulton & Palfrey, Funeral Directors, Tel: Chester 01244 216 885.

In Memoriam

CHARLES, Annaliese, I miss you every day dear Mum, your Son.

WTO place your announcement telephone 0171 534 5347 or fax 0171 715 4707 between 9am and 5pm Mon-Fri.

551 من الامم

Analysis Enlarging Europe

Thatcher's agenda moves centre stage

Talks have just begun in Brussels on incorporating the former east bloc. **Martin Walker reports.**

IT IS 11 years since the Iron Lady made her stirring Bruges speech, the year before the Berlin Wall came down, saying "We shall always look on Warsaw, Prague and Budapest as great European cities" (1). As always with her, sentiment blended with astute self-interest. She always hoped that enlarging the "European Union" would include its deepening into a federal system. And just as she knew that her budget rebate was stirring up trouble for the future, she knew farm reform would eventually wreck the Common Agricultural Policy, the central institution of the EU as it has been until now.

The Thatcherite agenda is now centre stage as the European Parliament wrangles over the reform of the CAP and the EU's budget as a prelude to enlargement. These big issues can no longer be put off, because accession, with the Poles, Czechs, Hungarians, Slovaks, Estonians and Cypriots have formally begun. And according to a report this week by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, economic prospects in the east bloc, while mixed, show some encouraging signs (2).

On the face of it, negotiations opened smoothly. Six countries have just come in for the first talks about accession at ministerial level, concentrating on seven chapters of the 80,000-page volume containing EU rules and regulations. (In Euro-speak this is known as the "acquis".) Three of these have been provisionally completed: research, education and rules for small and medium business enterprises. There don't seem to be serious difficulties with the other areas: telecommunications, culture and audio-visual policies, industrial policy and the move to a common foreign and security policy (3).

But no one should be fooled.

Negotiators have simply got the easy bits out of the way first. Trouble lies in wait, in agricultural policy, border security, environmental and financial standards and so on to budgets and the introduction of value added tax. And those are just the difficulties facing applicants. The toughest problems confront existing members as they address the impact of enlargement on them and on the finances of the union.

Hans van den Broek, the elegant Dutch Christian Democrat external affairs commissioner, has become famous in Eastern Europe by reminding everyone where the real power lies. "The European Union is not trying to join the Czech Republic," he said in his pointed comments. Yet the fact is the EU itself will be fundamentally transformed and the costs of that process are now visible.

The average European citizen today has £13,000 a year in GDP. By contrast, the Poles have barely a third of that amount and Czechs and Hungarians less than half. These are moreover the advanced candidates, far richer than the hapless Romanians and Bulgarians in the second wave who are less than half as well off as even the Poles (4).

The first wave would increase the EU's population by 17 per cent but add only 5 per cent to the club's GDP. Even if Poland maintains the breakneck pace of the past three years, it will be at least 15 years before its GDP is within striking distance of the EU average.

Admitting the poor easterners will therefore have dramatic impact on the way Europe finances its budget and distributes the structural funds that are intended to level out regional inequalities. And it will force a fundamental overhaul of agricultural subsidies — the Poles alone have more farms

than Britain, France and Germany combined (5).

So, before enlargement, the EU has to reform the CAP, which accounts for half of the EU's annual budget of \$80 billion. Poles, Czechs and Hungarians have said they assume the current level of farm subsidies will be available to them on joining. Forget it. This would double costs overnight. And it would be incompatible with the next phase of world trade talks, where Europe is already committed in principle to phasing out export subsidies for food.

THE EU has to sort out who bears the burden of the budgetary burden. Germany now pays close to 30 per cent of the total but gets back only 15 per cent of the refunds that come through the CAP and structural funds. Net payers who also include Austria, Sweden, the Netherlands and Britain are in effect subsidising the poorer countries such as Spain, Greece and Portugal (6). Spain, the biggest and toughest of them, says it will block everything rather than forego its net income from the EU, which is worth over \$10 billion a year.

"Enlargement is an obligation for all EU members — it should not come at our expense," Spain's foreign minister Abel Matutes insists. Yet Germany says it will no longer bankroll Europe. As for Britain, the Blair Government says it will not give up the annual \$3 billion rebate Mrs Thatcher won 15 years ago.

Brussels also has to work out how to adapt institutions designed for six nations to handle more than 30. Already there are 20 commissioners, one for each country and two for the bigger ones, which most insiders reckon is already too many. On current rules, the next wave of mem-

Bigger and better? EU expansion plans



bers ought to mean seven commissioners, because Poland reckons it is big enough to deserve two. And then there will have to be new jobs found in the commission for the Poles, Czechs and Slovaks who must be recruited, and a re-weighting of the various national votes inside the Council of Ministers. Can a body with over 20 members continue

with national vetoes, as used for example by Greece to stall policy towards Turkey, or is it finally time to move towards majority voting? This issue so nearly sank the Amsterdam treaty negotiations that it was kicked into the future. But now the future is upon us. In the course of the next seven months, by the end of the period when the Germans

hold the EU presidency these three big issues are supposed to be resolved. That's why four EU summits will convene in that period. Yet prospects for solution are grim. The CAP reform is already faltering. Franz Fischer, agriculture commissioner, proposed that the EU no longer subsidise food prices, allowing food prices to adjust to world mar-

ket levels. Instead, individual farmers in poor areas would be subsidised, as a way of maintaining the charms of the rural landscape. The British government loves this, even accepting the devil is in the details. The farming lobby hates it, along with all those countries and regions that currently do well from the CAP, such as France, Denmark, Spain, Greece and Bavaria (7).

The battle over the budget will be dreadful. Spain, Greece and Portugal simply refuse to accept the logic that they will no longer be "poor" countries once enlargement begins. And the Germans refuse to accept the lesson from the EU's history that the organisation only functions because they have consistently been prepared to pay for it.

There is a bright side to enlargement. It's worth looking at the grand transport plans EU experts have been drawing up together with the Geneva-based United Nations Economic Commission for Europe. Last October, at a conference in Helsinki, they pre-



Hard-wired heredity

sented their scheme for two huge new arteries, combining autoroutes and fast rail systems. One runs north to south, from Finland to Greece, connecting the Baltic states, Poland, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria, before branching off to Istanbul in Turkey and Salonika in Greece. The other ran west-to-east, from Berlin to Moscow (8).

Behind this grandiose plan is the knowledge that the eastern European applicants have something to offer the plump and satiated economies of the West and that's a promise of dynamism and growth. Much as the flood of American Marshall Plan aid inspired Western Europe's furious growth rates in the 1950s and 1960s, so enlargement could and should be the locomotive for future growth in both old and new Europe.

It will take at least a generation, but by 2020 most of the old Warsaw Pact lands should be fully integrated into Europe not just by security pacts and EU membership, but by a shared and common prosperity. An act of historical justice is sweetened by everybody's economic self-interest, in one of the great geo-political challenges of our time.

POLAND'S prime minister, Jerzy Buzek, had tears in his eyes, proclaiming "the real end of the second world war" when the EU formally invited his country and the rest of the old Warsaw Pact nations to join their prosperous haven. It was also, noted his Hungarian counterpart Gyula Horn, "the reunification of Europe", the fulfilment of that promise made by President George Bush in the summer before the Berlin Wall came down, that America was dedicated to the coming of "a Germany whole and free in a Europe whole and free".

It has been almost a decade in the coming, but the real aftermath of the cold war is now plain, in the double enlargement of both NATO and the EU. The division of Europe that followed the defeat of Nazi Germany is finally over. And the countries that brought the music of Chopin and Liszt and the plays of Vaclav Havel and the science of Copernicus to adorn Europe's culture are coming back where they belong. But the European Union will have to twist and fight itself into a new shape to absorb them and it looks as if it will have to be the transformed structure that Mrs Thatcher had plotted all along.

Sources: (1) Margaret Thatcher, Downing Street Years, London 1993, p744; (2) EBRD 1998 Transition Report, Stationery Office; (3) Agency Europe Bulletin 7339, November 9-10, 1998; (4) Eurostat memo 13/97, December 1997; (5) Eurostat, Basic Statistics of the EU, 33rd edition, 1996, pp 280-282; see also EU bulletin 7/97, commission opinion on Poland's application for membership, p52; (6) Financing the EU, EU Commission, COM (1998) 560, October 1998, p22-27; (7) Proposal for Council Regulations concerning Reform of the CAP, EU Commission, COM (1998) 158, March, 1998; (8) European Businessman, London, spring 1998.

Graphics sources: World Facts Book, 1997; Central Bank of Cyprus; Business Central Europe, published by Sheehy, Stefan Bayley. Research: Matthew Keating, Martin Walker is the Guardian's Europe editor.

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FinanceGuardian

Brussels puts BT on hold

Inquiry looms for telecom alliance

Julie Wolf in Brussels

THE European Commission is preparing to launch a full-scale investigation into BT's \$10 billion (£6 billion) alliance with AT&T, in a move that could force the companies to make changes to the deal.

News of yet another hurdle to BT's plans for international alliances helped depress market sentiment in London where the FTSE 100 lost 50 points, the first fall in four days, despite Wall Street's record close on Monday. BT shares fell more than 3 per cent to 882p after a record high the previous day.

A source close to Competition Commissioner Karel Van Miert said it was "very likely" the EU's anti-trust authority will open a four-month inquiry next week. The commission has until December 4 to decide whether to clear the merger after an initial one-month inquiry or go to an in-depth investigation.

Given the size of the link-up, the commission had been expected to need more time to consider the alliance. The drop in BT's share price may reflect market expectations that the companies will have to make concessions to secure the approval of Brussels. Although the commission rarely blocks mergers or joint ventures, full-scale investigations often lead the commission to seek changes which boost competition.

The deal, which would finally give BT a global partner, provides for the two companies to pool their international operations and assets and attract lucrative business in voice, data and Internet services from corporate clients. BT last year failed to acquire MCI Communications of the US when it was outbid by American phone company, WorldCom.

BT and AT&T were not surprised that the commission wants more time to scrutinise their venture. While an AT&T spokesman would not comment until there is a formal commission announcement, company officials said a four-month review would not delay implementation of the venture.

But the companies face strong opposition from other telecom operators, most notably Cable & Wireless, which has already filed a complaint to the commission and will make a further submission this week.

"AT&T and BT combined will be in a position to dominate the global market and effectively reduce the number of competitors to below the level necessary for vigorous competition," a C&W spokesman said.

The company is especially concerned about the alliance's effect on transatlantic traffic, where AT&T and BT already hold about 50 per cent of two-way traffic. The transatlantic route is significant for C&W which operates its own cables and is anxious to build up its Internet traffic.

AOL, Netscape and Sun step up challenge



Netscape took the Internet browser market by storm from its headquarters at Mountain View, California, but will die as a separate company, with chief executive officer Jim Barksdale (above) joining the American Online board chaired by Steve Case from whom he also wants to recruit Netscape's co-founder Marc Andreessen.
MAIN PHOTOGRAPH: PAUL SAKUMA

Triple alliance takes on Gates

Now Microsoft really has a rival, reports Mark Tran in New York

AMERICA Online yesterday agreed to buy software producer Netscape for \$4.2 billion (£2.5 billion), creating a formidable online rival to Bill Gates's Microsoft.

The dominance of Microsoft was further challenged by AOL's licensing deal with Sun Microsystems, which involves selling Netscape software in exchange for AOL's purchase of Sun's computers.

The three-way arrangement among Microsoft's rivals comes as the world's biggest software company is beefing up its online businesses. Adding Netscape's customers, Net browser and website will give AOL a bigger audience on the Internet, while Sun's technology will help expand AOL's service for devices such as pagers.

"We finally have a combination that can challenge Microsoft," said James Preissler, an analyst at PaineWebber.

AOL already has a customer base of 13 million subscribers while Netscape's website is one of the most popular on the Internet, drawing 20 million visitors each month.

The other three most popular sites are operated by AOL, Microsoft and Yahoo! By owning Netscape's browser, AOL could become an even more attractive partner for cable companies and consumer electronics-makers wishing to incorporate Web browsing into high-speed connections and new Web gadgets.

Netscape still leads in the browser market, although it has steadily lost market share to Microsoft's Internet Explorer. AOL now provides access to the Internet through Explorer, although that exclusive contract expires on January 1.

Regulators order closure of Boesky's UK broker

Dan Atkinson

THE former London stockbroker of American fraudster Ivan Boesky is being wound up by City regulators, it emerged yesterday. Up to £2 million of clients' funds may be at risk after supervisors decided Seligmann Harris & Co was not fit and proper to conduct investment business.

Action by financial enforcers followed a decision by the Securities and Futures Authority, the agency which polices exchange-based business, that the private-client stockbroker had committed misconduct because it had failed to protect the funds of its clients and maintain the mandated level of capital within the business.

Seligmann Harris refused to discuss the safety of client funds. An employee said: "There's nothing to say."

The SFA and its successor, the Financial Services Authority, will supervise the winding-down of Seligmann Harris, with officials trying to shield the funds of its 50 or so clients from the effects of the collapse.

But, with doubts raised about Seligmann's failure to observe "segregation" rules on separation of clients' funds from those of the business, up to £2 million could be at risk. Ivan Boesky was the mid-

1980s Wall Street guru whose genius at picking the right shares was found to be based less on the complicated arithmetic he boasted about than on insider-dealing.

Deutsche may have to offload car stake

Julie Treanor

DEUTSCHE Bank may be forced to sell its stake in the newly merged DaimlerChrysler car company to pay for Bankers Trust, the American group which it is in the final stages of buying for more than \$9 billion. City sources said last night.

The German banking group admitted yesterday that it is still finalising the terms of financing the deal, which will be largest foreign acquisition of a US bank and create one of the world's largest financial services companies.

Rain storms put sewerage system at risk

Water firm says price cuts hamper repairs. Nicholas Bannister reports

SEVERN Trent, Britain's largest water company, yesterday warned that its sewerage system might not be able to cope with increasingly heavy rain storms caused by climate change.

The company said there was evidence that its sewerage system had already been unable to handle the surface drainage caused by the recent heavy storms.

"Climate change means it is going to get warmer and wetter," a spokesman said. "We are worried about the impact on our sewerage treatment sites."

The company's sewerage system, much of it built in the last century, had been inundated by the intense storms which resulted in extensive flooding.

Severn Trent spends about £200 million a year to maintain its water and sewerage systems, and, like the other water companies, fears that severe price cuts proposed by the industry regulator might force it to slow down investment

needed to improve its operations. The group yesterday reported that first-half, pre-tax profits had fallen by 7.7 per cent to £176.5 million as a result of higher interest charges. Operating profit was unchanged despite a 6.7 per cent rise in turnover. The interim dividend has been raised by 8 per cent.

Chief executive Vic Cocker said he expected turnover of the group's non-regulated activities to equal those of the regulated water business within the next five to 10 years.

Mr Cocker is expecting tough talks with the industry regulator, Ofwat, which has indicated that the company should cut its prices by between 15 and 20 per cent. He insisted that the interests of all stakeholders had to be taken into account.



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Belgium 56.52	Hong Kong 12.44	Netherlands 3.0762	Spain 221.91
Canada 2.48	India 70.109	New Zealand 3.02	Sweden 13.08
Cyprus 0.8075	Ireland 1.0539	Norway 12.08	Switzerland 1.259
Denmark 10.47	Israel 6.82	Portugal 278.49	Turkey 478.540
Finland 6.40	Italy 2.723	Saudi Arabia 5.09	USA 1.0078
France 9.1557			

سكرا من الامم

Sainz's world goes up in smoke



So near yet so far... Carlos Sainz throws up his hands in despair as the engine of his Toyota expires 500 yards from the finish to deprive him of his third world drivers' championship

Field singed by first-degree Burns

David Williams in Cheltenham sees a rare home triumph in the Rally of Great Britain

WEARING a boyish grin that stretched from ear to ear, Richard Burns juggled a succession of interviews, congratulations and mobile-phone calls with the same aplomb that had conquered the Welsh forests and made him only the third British driver to win the Rally of Great Britain since 1969.

Burns's personal triumph was the most predictable of an embarrasment of riches for the Mitsubishi team. His victory had already guaranteed

the world championship for manufacturers, but Carlos Sainz's retirement with a blown Toyota engine only 300 yards from the finish of the last special stage meant that a disbelieving Tommi Makinen, hags packed and ready to set off for the airport, has after all become world rally champion for the third year running, an unprecedented feat, certainly for someone who had spent most of the decisive rally in his hotel after crashing his Mitsubishi on oil.

If Burns had not eased up

on the final stage at Margam in south Wales he would have been quickest on the last eight of the 28 stages. It was a fair summary of his absolute mastery of unrelentingly foul conditions.

Heavy rain and dense fog made the opening stages very particularly treacherous, although the pressure on the leader was reduced somewhat when Alistair McRae, lying second, crashed heavily, ending a disastrous rally for Subaru. By then Burns had his emotions under control and dealt coolly with an electronic problem that upset the four-wheel-drive system and might just as easily have

joined his own equilibrium. The gangling Oxford man continued to shatter stage records and sometimes increased his lead by half a minute after winning the Safari. Burns has learnt how to handle pressure, but his initial reaction was relief.

"This wasn't just for me. I'm leaving the team and it's the best way to go," he said. "I don't think I've driven anywhere near as well as in Australia. When we were fighting with Colin [McRae] I was driving pretty well then, but since then I've tried to build up a bit of cushion."

Winning his second world championship rally — his first "sprint" event — confirmed Burns's rising status but Mitsubishi were more excited about Makinen's last-gasp reprieve. "Can you believe it?" exclaimed Andrew Cowan, a Mitsubishi director. "If it had happened to me, I would probably have dropped dead. It must have been the shock of all shocks. I feel for Carlos and Toyota but we were here to win the championship and we got points on the board before this rally."

"Richard's win is the icing on the cake. He did exactly what we wanted and covered every eventuality," Makinen, of Finland, said of his title win. "It is important, it is history, but it would be better to drive in the rally and win that way. It's been very difficult for me the last few days and for the next few days it is going to be very difficult for Carlos. I am sorry for him as well."

Berry to move aside and let son take over

Chris Hawkins

JACK BERRY has decided that next Flat season will be his last in charge at the Moss Side stables at Cockerham in Lancashire. He will step down to allow his son Alan to take over the licence.

"I've been at it for nearly 30 years and it's only fair the boy should have a crack," said Berry, who was 61 last month. "He's 35 and it's time for him to be his own man — he doesn't want to be in my shadow all the time."

"In any case, you can become a slave to this job. If I stop for five minutes to have a cup of tea I start feeling guilty that I should be doing something else."

"It doesn't mean that I'm packing up altogether. I'm a hands-on person who loves to be with the horses and I'll be able to stay at home with them a bit more. Alan can cope with the red tape and the traffic jams."

"That should give me a bit more time to myself — there's more to life than racing. I love fishing — I caught a 10lbh

Blue Marlin on holiday last year — cricket and Leeds United."

Berry may be kidding himself that he will have more leisure time. Up when the cock crows and still doing his entries late at night, he has the reputation of being a workaholic.

Before turning to training Berry was a jump jockey with arguably more enthusiasm than ability. He rode only 47 winners and almost matched this total with broken bones.

Finally, when he fractured five vertebrae, he decided to heed the advice of the surgeon that it was time to call it a day.

He began training with 10 advantages, and aptly called his autobiography, published two years ago "It's Tougher at the Bottom."

But his unstinting efforts saw him build a small yard at Cockerham into the present palatial establishment from which he has regularly sent out over 100 winners a season and passed the 1,500 mark last May.

"I'm pleased we've put a non-racing area on the map," he said. "If I had one wish for my final year it would be to have a Group One winner. I've had plenty of secondaries. I reckon my best chance is with Bolshoi."

Two-year-olds have been Berry's trademark and so many of them have exhibited characteristics which can be likened to his own — cheeky, early starts, but tough enough to run frequently and go on improving.



Berry... more leisure time

Hexham

CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
1.00 Stash The Cash	Star Selection
1.30 Helmsley Flier	Roi De La Chasse (nb)
2.00 Mammoth	Solebrith
2.30 Marmoset	Wicklow Way
3.00 The Snow Burn	Solger
3.30 Lord Of The Sky	

One, left-handed shot of 10m, with 220yd run-in. Underlying course that becomes very testing when the ground is soft. Selling: heavy, soft in places. 50 Denotes winners. 50 Top form rating. Seven-day winners: None. Marketed first time: 3.00 Pter Echo, Winner: None.

1.00 BUCHANAN SMOOTH NOVICE CHASE

CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
1.00 Stash The Cash	Star Selection
1.30 Helmsley Flier	Roi De La Chasse (nb)
2.00 Mammoth	Solebrith
2.30 Marmoset	Wicklow Way
3.00 The Snow Burn	Solger
3.30 Lord Of The Sky	

One, left-handed shot of 10m, with 220yd run-in. Underlying course that becomes very testing when the ground is soft. Selling: heavy, soft in places. 50 Denotes winners. 50 Top form rating. Seven-day winners: None. Marketed first time: 3.00 Pter Echo, Winner: None.

1.30 E.R.F. NOVICE HURDLE

CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
1.00 Stash The Cash	Star Selection
1.30 Helmsley Flier	Roi De La Chasse (nb)
2.00 Mammoth	Solebrith
2.30 Marmoset	Wicklow Way
3.00 The Snow Burn	Solger
3.30 Lord Of The Sky	

One, left-handed shot of 10m, with 220yd run-in. Underlying course that becomes very testing when the ground is soft. Selling: heavy, soft in places. 50 Denotes winners. 50 Top form rating. Seven-day winners: None. Marketed first time: 3.00 Pter Echo, Winner: None.

2.00 PRINCE'S TRUST VOLUNTEERS HANDICAP CHASE

CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
1.00 Stash The Cash	Star Selection
1.30 Helmsley Flier	Roi De La Chasse (nb)
2.00 Mammoth	Solebrith
2.30 Marmoset	Wicklow Way
3.00 The Snow Burn	Solger
3.30 Lord Of The Sky	

One, left-handed shot of 10m, with 220yd run-in. Underlying course that becomes very testing when the ground is soft. Selling: heavy, soft in places. 50 Denotes winners. 50 Top form rating. Seven-day winners: None. Marketed first time: 3.00 Pter Echo, Winner: None.

2.30 FEDERATION BREWERY HANDICAP HURDLE

CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
1.00 Stash The Cash	Star Selection
1.30 Helmsley Flier	Roi De La Chasse (nb)
2.00 Mammoth	Solebrith
2.30 Marmoset	Wicklow Way
3.00 The Snow Burn	Solger
3.30 Lord Of The Sky	

One, left-handed shot of 10m, with 220yd run-in. Underlying course that becomes very testing when the ground is soft. Selling: heavy, soft in places. 50 Denotes winners. 50 Top form rating. Seven-day winners: None. Marketed first time: 3.00 Pter Echo, Winner: None.

3.00 JOHN BUSTACE SMITH NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE

CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
1.00 Stash The Cash	Star Selection
1.30 Helmsley Flier	Roi De La Chasse (nb)
2.00 Mammoth	Solebrith
2.30 Marmoset	Wicklow Way
3.00 The Snow Burn	Solger
3.30 Lord Of The Sky	

One, left-handed shot of 10m, with 220yd run-in. Underlying course that becomes very testing when the ground is soft. Selling: heavy, soft in places. 50 Denotes winners. 50 Top form rating. Seven-day winners: None. Marketed first time: 3.00 Pter Echo, Winner: None.

3.30 FEDERATION BREWERY MEDALLION LASER PLAT

CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
1.00 Stash The Cash	Star Selection
1.30 Helmsley Flier	Roi De La Chasse (nb)
2.00 Mammoth	Solebrith
2.30 Marmoset	Wicklow Way
3.00 The Snow Burn	Solger
3.30 Lord Of The Sky	

One, left-handed shot of 10m, with 220yd run-in. Underlying course that becomes very testing when the ground is soft. Selling: heavy, soft in places. 50 Denotes winners. 50 Top form rating. Seven-day winners: None. Marketed first time: 3.00 Pter Echo, Winner: None.

Charity Placepot bet

THE Tote are offering the Guardian racing desk a £24 Placepot every day this week, with any profits going to charity. Today's £1 perm is: Hexham, 1.00 Stash The Cash, 1.30 Helmsley Flier, 2.00 Mammoth, 2.30 Marmoset, 3.00 The Snow Burn, 3.30 Lord Of The Sky.

Chepstow card with form guide

CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
1.00 Stash The Cash	Star Selection
1.30 Helmsley Flier	Roi De La Chasse (nb)
2.00 Mammoth	Solebrith
2.30 Marmoset	Wicklow Way
3.00 The Snow Burn	Solger
3.30 Lord Of The Sky	

One, left-handed shot of 10m, with 220yd run-in. Underlying course that becomes very testing when the ground is soft. Selling: heavy, soft in places. 50 Denotes winners. 50 Top form rating. Seven-day winners: None. Marketed first time: 3.00 Pter Echo, Winner: None.

12.50 TIPPERARY NOVICE CHASE

CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
1.00 Stash The Cash	Star Selection
1.30 Helmsley Flier	Roi De La Chasse (nb)
2.00 Mammoth	Solebrith
2.30 Marmoset	Wicklow Way
3.00 The Snow Burn	Solger
3.30 Lord Of The Sky	

One, left-handed shot of 10m, with 220yd run-in. Underlying course that becomes very testing when the ground is soft. Selling: heavy, soft in places. 50 Denotes winners. 50 Top form rating. Seven-day winners: None. Marketed first time: 3.00 Pter Echo, Winner: None.

1.20 KILLARNEY NOVICE HURDLE

CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
1.00 Stash The Cash	Star Selection
1.30 Helmsley Flier	Roi De La Chasse (nb)
2.00 Mammoth	Solebrith
2.30 Marmoset	Wicklow Way
3.00 The Snow Burn	Solger
3.30 Lord Of The Sky	

One, left-handed shot of 10m, with 220yd run-in. Underlying course that becomes very testing when the ground is soft. Selling: heavy, soft in places. 50 Denotes winners. 50 Top form rating. Seven-day winners: None. Marketed first time: 3.00 Pter Echo, Winner: None.

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CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
1.00 Stash The Cash	Star Selection
1.30 Helmsley Flier	Roi De La Chasse (nb)
2.00 Mammoth	Solebrith
2.30 Marmoset	Wicklow Way
3.00 The Snow Burn	Solger
3.30 Lord Of The Sky	

One, left-handed shot of 10m, with 220yd run-in. Underlying course that becomes very testing when the ground is soft. Selling: heavy, soft in places. 50 Denotes winners. 50 Top form rating. Seven-day winners: None. Marketed first time: 3.00 Pter Echo, Winner: None.

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CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
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1.30 Helmsley Flier	Roi De La Chasse (nb)
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2.30 Marmoset	Wicklow Way
3.00 The Snow Burn	Solger
3.30 Lord Of The Sky	

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CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
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CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
1.00 Stash The Cash	Star Selection
1.30 Helmsley Flier	Roi De La Chasse (nb)
2.00 Mammoth	Solebrith
2.30 Marmoset	Wicklow Way
3.00 The Snow Burn	Solger
3.30 Lord Of The Sky	

2.20 SCOTTISH EQUITABLE JOCKEYS ASSOCIATION HANDICAP CHASE

CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
1.00 Stash The Cash	Star Selection
1.30 Helmsley Flier	Roi De La Chasse (nb)
2.00 Mammoth	Solebrith
2.30 Marmoset	Wicklow Way
3.00 The Snow Burn	Solger
3.30 Lord Of The Sky	

One, left-handed shot of 10m, with 220yd run-in. Underlying course that becomes very testing when the ground is soft. Selling: heavy, soft in places. 50 Denotes winners. 50 Top form rating. Seven-day winners: None. Marketed first time: 3.00 Pter Echo, Winner: None.

2.50 OPEN NATIONAL HURDLE

CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
1.00 Stash The Cash	Star Selection
1.30 Helmsley Flier	Roi De La Chasse (nb)
2.00 Mammoth	Solebrith
2.30 Marmoset	Wicklow Way
3.00 The Snow Burn	Solger
3.30 Lord Of The Sky	

One, left-handed shot of 10m, with 220yd run-in. Underlying course that becomes very testing when the ground is soft. Selling: heavy, soft in places. 50 Denotes winners. 50 Top form rating. Seven-day winners: None. Marketed first time: 3.00 Pter Echo, Winner: None.

3.25 WEATHERSHY STARS OF TOMORROW OPEN NATIONAL HURDLE

CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
1.00 Stash The Cash	Star Selection
1.30 Helmsley Flier	Roi De La Chasse (nb)
2.00 Mammoth	Solebrith
2.30 Marmoset	Wicklow Way
3.00 The Snow Burn	Solger
3.30 Lord Of The Sky	

One, left-handed shot of 10m, with 220yd run-in. Underlying course that becomes very testing when the ground is soft. Selling: heavy, soft in places. 50 Denotes winners. 50 Top form rating. Seven-day winners: None. Marketed first time: 3.00 Pter Echo, Winner: None.

3.55 WEATHERSHY STARS OF TOMORROW OPEN NATIONAL HURDLE

CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
1.00 Stash The Cash	Star Selection
1.30 Helmsley Flier	Roi De La Chasse (nb)
2.00 Mammoth	Solebrith
2.30 Marmoset	Wicklow Way
3.00 The Snow Burn	Solger
3.30 Lord Of The Sky	

One, left-handed shot of 10m, with 220yd run-in. Underlying course that becomes very testing when the ground is soft. Selling: heavy, soft in places. 50 Denotes winners. 50 Top form rating. Seven-day winners: None. Marketed first time: 3.00 Pter Echo, Winner: None.

1.10 SPONSOR A RACE FOR A BIRTHDAY MAIDEN STAKES 2YO

CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
1.00 Stash The Cash	Star Selection
1.30 Helmsley Flier	Roi De La Chasse (nb)
2.00 Mammoth	Solebrith
2.30 Marmoset	Wicklow Way
3.00 The Snow Burn	Solger
3.30 Lord Of The Sky	

One, left-handed shot of 10m, with 220yd run-in. Underlying course that becomes very testing when the ground is soft. Selling: heavy, soft in places. 50 Denotes winners. 50 Top form rating. Seven-day winners: None. Marketed first time: 3.00 Pter Echo, Winner: None.

1.40 DISCOUNTS FOR RACING NURSERY HANDICAP 2YO

CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
1.00 Stash The Cash	Star Selection
1.30 Helmsley Flier	Roi De La Chasse (nb)
2.00 Mammoth	Solebrith
2.30 Marmoset	Wicklow Way
3.00 The Snow Burn	Solger
3.30 Lord Of The Sky	

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CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
1.00 Stash The Cash	Star Selection
1.30 Helmsley Flier	Roi De La Chasse (nb)
2.00 Mammoth	Solebrith
2.30 Marmoset	Wicklow Way
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Lingfield (A.W.)

CHRIS HAWKINS	TOP FORM
1.00 Stash The Cash	Star Selection</

Storm saves Stewart's men in first Test

Mike Selvey in Brisbane sees Australia draw a moral advantage from the Gabba after being denied a shot at victory by the elements

England fail test of spin

THE first Test ended in a draw yesterday afternoon amid scenes that would not have been out of place on the set of Dracula. It left the England batsmen perhaps wondering whether they might usefully employ garlic, crucifixes and wooden stakes to counter the menace posed by the Man of the Match Glenn McGrath when the second Test begins in Perth on Saturday.

England had been 26 without loss overnight, requiring a further 322 to complete what always seemed an unlikely win, but more realistically needing to bat a minimum of 92 overs to keep the series all square. They were on 179 for six, with 10 front-line batsmen left, when the umpires

Darrell Hair and K T Francis brought the players off the field 20 minutes before the tea interval with the light closing in rapidly and despite Australia employing spin at both ends.

Away to the south of the ground the lightning already crackled ominously. Half an hour later it was dark enough to have had Dylan Thomas in Bible-black raptures, and by 10 past three the rain began, a drip at first but then in such torrents that in no time the entire playing surface was awash. The match was abandoned at 4.35.

Although England played some worthy cricket during the first half of the match, it was Australia who made all the running on the final two days. They demolished England's lower order, scored at four runs an over in pursuit of a declaration and then put the tourists under pressure yesterday.

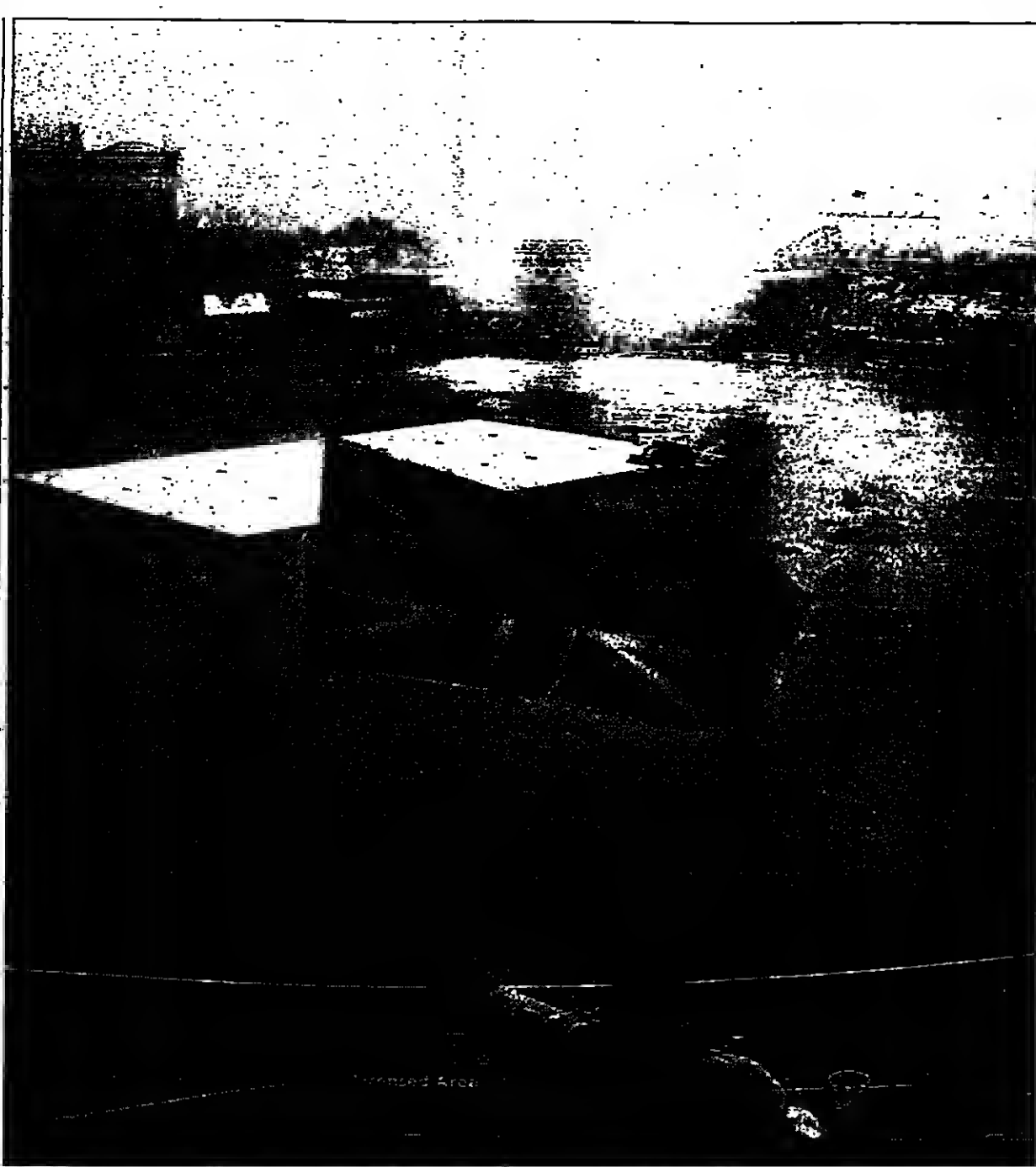
The draw ended a sequence of five consecutive wins at the Gabba for Australia, as well as two in a row against England. But it will be Mark Taylor's team who take heart from this encounter, because on what was a tremendous cricket pitch — some pace and bounce, good for batting but wearing towards the end — England were found wanting against the spin of Stuart MacGill.

On a pitch that helped him, MacGill gave his leg-spinner a rip like a buzzsaw and mixed it up with a well disguised googly that bamboozled, among others, Nasser Hussain. Yesterday, bowling from the Stanley Street end, he sent down 22 consecutive overs, taking the wickets of Mark Butcher, Hussain and Mark Ramprakash at a cost of \$1. It will require more tutorials from the leg-spinning coach Peter Philpott if wrist spin is not to prove England's undoing once more.

Goodness knows what would have happened had Shane Warne been playing. Given that he took eight wickets in the second innings the last time England were at the Gabba, it is not fanciful to suggest that the rain would have been immaterial to the result.

Australia's response to MacGill's success was to omit him from their 12 for the second Test, hinging in the multi-faceted seamer-spinner Colin Miller. It is a horses-for-courses decision based on Perth's reputation as a haven for pace and Warne's lack of success there. MacGill's disappointment at being dropped is a knowledge that he will almost certainly be back for the third Test in Adelaide if Warne does not get there first.

The other wickets went to Mark Waugh, who propelled



Unflinching spirit... an England fan waves the Union Jack as the Gabba is engulfed

PHOTOGRAPH BY IAN WALDIE

his occasional off-spin initially to give McGrath a break and then to keep the game on the park when England's tail was at the crease, the light was sepulchral and the fast bowler was foaming at the mouth at the shackles placed on him by the conditions.

McGrath got Mike Atherton out, of course, but that is not news. Yesterday, with the opening partnership worth 46, Atherton got under a hook shot and sent the ball straight to Michael Kasprowicz at long leg. It was a sucker punch because McGrath had given him a sniff of the tactic first.

The most positive England cricket yesterday came from Butcher and Hussain, who added 50 for the second wicket, the latter twice stepping from his crease to hit Waugh thrillingly straight for six. Then Butcher, on 40, offered no stroke to MacGill, the ball turning sharply from the rough and striking him on the inside of the back thigh.

Hair, who has been in the vanguard of the campaign to give out batsmen in such circumstances, did so here, although the batsman may have been a shade unlucky.

Alec Stewart's woes continued and he did little to dispel

the notion that he is a poor starter against spin when he prodded forward to Waugh and popped up a sharp chance to silly point via pad and bat. The England captain's first-class scores on this tour now read 0, 52, 0, 8 and 3. When Hussain chopped on after failing to spot MacGill's first "un" and Ramprakash was stumped, England were 151 for six and in real danger. Taylor, though, could not employ McGrath against Dominic Cork and he together with Robert Croft survived the remaining eight overs until play was stopped.

Lester to auction the spoils of a lifetime



Paul Weaver

THERE are a number of us who find Timeform marginally more baffling than the Dead Sea scrolls and who subscribe to the Meek theory that a bookmaker is a pickpocket who allows you to use your own hands. This explains why this particular space does not normally bang on about dohbins or those magical elves in the rainbow silks who sit on top of them.

But even those without an intimate knowledge of the inner workings of either gee-gee or jockey cannot fail to acknowledge that Lester Piggott was not only the outstanding horseman of his remarkable long day but also possibly the most astonishing figure in all British sport.

All of which makes today rather sad, for in a grand London room many of the Loog Fellow's trophies, works of art and memorabilia will come under the unsentimental gavel of the auctioneer at Sotheby's. It will be the first time a jockey's personal trophy collection has been put up for public sale.

He does not need the money. Does he? Even as a young man he would bury his fat cigar and lined features in the pink pages of the Financial Times. "He lives on those bloody cigars," said the Queen's former jockey Harry Carr. Then there was his legendary tightness; he even spent a spell in one of Her Majesty's losers' enclosures after being found guilty of tax evasion.

Another jockey tells the tale of how Piggott had a large debt repaid at a racetrack, pocketing a fat wad of ready before going into the jockeys' room, where he asked another rider if he could borrow a fiver. "But what about that lot you were just handed?" came the bewildered reply. "Oh, I don't want to break into that," said Piggott.

Graham Budd, Sotheby's racing specialist, says: "The fact is Lester won so many things that a lot of them were left unopened in his boxes. This is only a fraction of what he won. Some items could go for as little as £150, others could make £4,000. The 120 lots could raise £100,000 but he will pay a proportion of that into the Injured Jockeys Fund."

Many would like to see a law brought in that says some-

one who has given us so many memories should not be separated from his memorabilia. Up for sale today are six of his 11 Champion Jockey trophies, including his fourth, won in 1968, when he rode a career record of 191 winners, and his last, won in 1982. They are expected to sell for £1,500-£2,500.

The saddle he used to win the 1968 Derby on Sir Ivor, mounted with a silver plaque bearing Lester's engraved signature, could fetch a little more.

It was in 1948, the year of the Wembley Olympics and Don Bradman's last England tour, that as a 12-year-old he rode his first winner. The Chase, at Haydock Park.

By the time he allowed his riding licence to lapse three years ago, some 47 years on, the Epsom master with the bobbing bottom and the cleft palate had enjoyed some 5,300 triumphs in 30 countries. There were nine Derby wins and 30 English Classic victories.

He was only 18 when he won

'He lives on cigars; and he can tell you the exchange rate anywhere in the world'

his first Derby. He was so dedicated that he would drive home from the airs and graces with a sweat suit under his clothes and the heating turned up. "He reckoned that he could lose four or five pounds by the time he got home," said his colleague Colin Lake. "The rest of us, gasping, would ask him to stop so we could get a drink of orange but he wouldn't hear of it."

He was probably the finest jockey these islands have produced. Fred Archer, Piggott's own racing hero, has his own advocates and it is impossible to dismiss a man who was Champion Jockey in 13 consecutive seasons. But when he shot himself through the mouth a century ago he was only 26.

Sir Noel Murless, who provided Piggott with so many of his winners, once said: "You can teach a jockey many things but there is something you cannot transmit. It is the feeling, the sensitivity, the natural jockey. It is a mystery which only the horse, the great jockey and God can really know about."

Carr has no doubts: "For my money he's just the best rider who ever got up on a horse, anywhere, any time."

Stewart off on the wrong foot

Paul Allott reports on the challenges facing the England captain after Brisbane

ALEC STEWART has made a wretched start to this Australian tour: only two half-centuries, and three ducks, a bad back and a first Test in which he managed to slam a looping full toss down square leg's throat and did not get into double figures in either innings.

Stewart realised that Australia would be tough but he now has an even tougher task ahead, especially in the next three days before the Perth Test. Motivating his team will not be a problem, nor will he have any difficulty getting himself up. But his team's approach to the game needs appraisal.

Essentially England have to eradicate the silly mistakes they made in this Brisbane match. Concentration is the key, to prevent the dropped chances, to string together three good sessions each day, and to implement the batting plan of the lower middle order, the demise of which precipitated England's trials of the final two days.

Stewart himself will always

lead from the front, but he could do without his dismal form with the bat. His poor record against Australia continues to haunt him; he averages only 25 in 38 innings and has never scored a Test century against them. His performances in the first Test of each of the five series he has played against Australia have been poor: four single-figure scores and no half-century, and in all of those series he has finished on the losing side.

With the partial resurgence of England this summer and the series win against South Africa, Stewart saw this tour of Australia as his chance to creep up on, and surprise, the best team in the world. He still does.

Stewart of course is seen as the linchpin of the side, the all-rounder whose presence allows the inclusion of five specialist bowlers, the captain who provides the leadership and ideas, a man with three roles of huge importance. Inevitably there will be those who suggest that this

work-load is in fact too heavy for him and this is the reason for his poor form. I disagree, and think the only slight change that he should contemplate would be to consider betting at No. 6, to give him more time to rest between sessions in the field and getting his pads on. It might prolong his career and it would certainly not weaken England's batting order; there are six other batsmen on tour who can all bat with competence in the top four.

In order to do this immediately Stewart will have to overcome his uncertainty against Australia's second-string spin attack. If he can transfer the confidence he shows against quicker bowling to the way he tackles Stuart MacGill and Mark Waugh then half the battle will be won.

Stewart has never been and will never be a tentative batsman and should not let the fact that he is captain temper his attacking style. He will also do well to remember that a team's confidence is infectious and flows from the captain. He must imbue his team with ample amounts before Perth.

Curiously Stewart and his team may have received a timely confidence boost from a strange quarter. The Australian selectors have decided to omit MacGill in Perth, which means there will be no tormenting leg-spinner. Just because Shane Warne hates bowling there does not mean that MacGill would feel the same way.

Deep down Stewart will have little regard for Australian selectors and will want to do well in the city where he played for six winters. That experience, on the fast, bouncy pitches of Western Australia, could prove vital to his attempts to lay to rest his, and England's, bogey against Australia.

several days of bitter infighting, including claims of internal destabilisation as well as political and personal animosity.

Cricket

Pakistan comfortably beat Zimbabwe by 111 runs in the third and final one-day match in Rawalpindi to win the series 2-1. Zimbabwe were all out for 191 in the 38th over in reply to Pakistan's huge 302 for six. Pakistan's Ijaz Ahmed won the Man of the Match award for his innings of 132 and Saeed Anwar contributed 73.

Nottinghamshire expect to complete the signing of the former England A spinner Richard Stemp today. The 30-year-old left-arm, told he can leave Yorkshire, has indicated he will sign a two-year contract.

Olympic Games

The organising committee for the Sydney 2000 Games has been shaken by the resignation of director of Rod McGeoch, who said he was the victim of rumour-mongering. His departure followed

Stewart favours floodlit games

ALEC STEWART yesterday became the first England captain to agree, in principle, to play Test cricket under floodlights.

"I've no objection to using them," he said, responding after Australia's captain Mark Taylor reopened the debate on the use of floodlights to prevent stoppages for bad light. "But we didn't want to go into a Test series with lights being used without having experienced the conditions first."

"I think floodlights will eventually be the way to go in a few years' time. I'm sure the International Cricket Council may make a ruling that that's the way the game's going."

"But for this tour we haven't experienced playing under lights with a red ball during the day and I think the two boards agreed that if one team was unhappy then it wouldn't stand."

Taylor believes cricket is losing public appeal be-

cause of the numerous stoppages for light, and he attempted to reach agreement, in principle, to play the start of the Ashes series.

England benefited from their refusal then on the final day on the first Test. "I'd have liked to have played with lights at Brisbane," said Taylor. "Because I think that would have at least given us up to tea, although we would still have been troolled to go beyond that."

"I had a chat with Alec the other night about this," he added. "And I've never played a Shield game under lights either. I don't think there is a great advantage or disadvantage either way. The people who have played under lights in Australia are not the Test players, because they tend to be away a lot."

"People want to see results, people want to see Test cricket and if lights can provide us with the time to finish a game then they should be used."

Snooker

Doherty falls in Dublin derby

Clive Everton

FERGAL O'BRIEN, the world No. 20, overturned a 7-3 deficit to beat his fellow Dubliner Ken Doherty, the 1997 world champion, 9-7 to reach the quarter-finals of the Liverpool Victoria UK Championship at the Bournemouth International Centre.

"It's a terrible loss. I don't think I've ever lost from such a commanding position before," said Doherty. "You've got to pick yourself up but it's going to take a while."

O'Brien went for his shots yesterday and a total clearance of 130 completed his

recovery to 7-7. Doherty had no answer as he potted exceptionally well from distance and coolly negotiated some tricky pots at shorter range.

O'Brien's quarter-final opponent will be David Harold, the world No. 18, who has already eliminated two top-16 players, Nigel Bond and Mark Williams.

John Higgins routinely disposed of the Northern Ireland left-hander Terry Murphy 9-4 and will play John Parrott in the quarter-finals. Steve Davis moved towards a quarter-final with the 20-year-old Yorkshireman Paul Hunter by accumulating a 5-1 interval lead over Marcus Campbell.

Sport in brief

Boxing

Joe Calzaghe has withdrawn from the defence of his World Boxing Organisation super-middleweight title against Canada's Syd Vanderpool in a bout scheduled for Saturday in London because of an elbow injury and Micky Cantwell, who was due to fight for the vacant International Boxing Federation flyweight title on the same bill, has also had to pull out, through illness.

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Ice Hockey

Crawford sacked by Tigers

TELFORD TIGERS yesterday sacked their Canadian defenceman Wayne Crawford after he was involved in a confrontation with visiting supporters in Saturday's British National League game at home to Paisley Pirates.

A female Paisley fan accused the 37-year-old from Toronto of "pushing [her] around" as he argued with her male companion after being ejected from the game for smashing a Pirates player with his stick.

In a statement yesterday Telford, claiming breach of contract, said the incident was "unprecedented" and had

"tarnished the reputation of the player concerned, his former team, the British National League and the sport of ice hockey." The club also apologised to any Paisley supporters "who were alarmed by the incident," which is understood to have led to a minor confrontation between rival fans.

Meanwhile London Knights, already struggling in the Superleague with a string of injuries, have been hit by the decision of their captain Bruce Eakin, 36, to retire and go home to Winnipeg. He played his final game for the club in their 4-3 win at home to Ayr last Saturday.

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SportsGuardian

Everton left in turmoil as Shearer gets his man

Ian Ross and Michael Walker report on the fall-out from the controversial £8m transfer of Duncan Ferguson to Newcastle

WHILE Everton's manager Walter Smith confirmed yesterday that the £8 million transfer of Duncan Ferguson to Newcastle was done behind his back, it appeared that Ruud Gullit's first signing since replacing Kenny Dalglish three months ago was not of his own making.

Smith was in the dark until he spoke to his club captain on the stairs at Goodison after the 1-0 win over Newcastle on Monday night. Gullit went into the deal eyes wide open but with Alan Shearer apparently showing him the way.

Newcastle's manager tried not to put all his spending money on the table by offering to include several players in a part-exchange, notably Gary Speed and Keith Gillespie, but Everton's chairman Peter Johnson insisted on cash.

Yesterday Smith admitted: "I knew nothing about this at all — it was done without my knowledge." However, he has agreed to stay at Goodison despite being told at a board meeting yesterday that the fee would be used to help reduce the club's overdraft of around £20 million rather than to buy players.

However the cut in the overdraft may be £1.5 million less than the reported fee because Ferguson's former club Rangers are due part of the profits under a sell-on clause and the player is owed a loyalty bonus.

That will matter little to Everton fans whose furious backlash against the move may sweep Johnson from power after four years in control.

Switchboards at Goodison and Johnson's hamper business. Park Foods on the Wirral, were jammed all day by protest calls and disgruntled supporters began returning their season tickets.

Johnson's position would now appear to be almost untenable and by the time Chelsea visit Goodison on Saturday week he may have

offloaded his controlling interest.

Although the multi-millionaire has insisted he would only consider offers of more than £90 million for his 68 per cent shareholding, he may have to revise that figure.

It is believed that a business consortium, possibly fronted by the theatrical impresario and Everton director Bill Kenwright is ready to make a formal offer of around £90 million for the stake Johnson purchased for £19 million just over four years ago.

While Everton are contemplating departures, at Newcastle the move is likely to result in Shearer staying. Indeed it seems the decision to invest all the money allocated to Gullit for buying players on just one was taken by the England captain, who missed the game at Goodison because of a hamstring injury.

Ferguson years



1990: Joins Dundee United aged 19 from Cause Thistle.
1992: Wins first cap for Scotland.
1993: Joins Rangers in record £4m deal after 77 League appearances for United and 28 League goals.
1994: Headlines transfer to Newcastle for £8m.
1995: Wins first cap for Scotland.
1996: Wins first cap for Scotland.
1997: Wins first cap for Scotland.
1998: Wins first cap for Scotland.

Shearer's sense of unease since the dismissal of his friend Dalglish has been almost tangible and in an attempt to keep him happy at St James' Park, despite his assertions that he is, Newcastle asked him who he wanted as his striking partner.

It is believed that his first choice was Dion Dublin and Gullit tried to sign him. But despite offering Coventry City £5 million he missed out. Dublin preferring to join the Premiership leaders Aston Villa.

Gullit then suggested Chelsea's Norwegian international Tore Andre Flo but Shearer asked for Ferguson instead.

The former Scotland striker will collect £10 million over the course of his five-year contract which will make him the best-paid player in British football with a weekly salary of £40,000. Shearer is currently believed to earn around £32,000 a week.

Although Shearer again reiterated his desire to remain on Tyneside, Gullit continued to include in teasing references concerning the striker. "I want to keep Alan Shearer and now it is all up to him," he said. "As far as I am concerned Alan Shearer is not for sale but if a player wants to leave..."

However, he added: "I want Alan Shearer to play with Duncan Ferguson, but what this signing means is that we don't have to rely on one man any more. That's not good."

Newcastle's chairman Freddie Shepherd said: "There is no ulterior motive in signing Duncan Ferguson. Don't forget we are all Georgies and we want Alan Shearer to play for Newcastle."

Ferguson will bring two qualities Newcastle's attack lacked at Everton — power and passion. If he can establish a rapport with Shearer Newcastle will have solved one of their major problems.

Shearer has wanted a partner to share the responsibility of scoring and holding the ball up. At Blackburn he had Chris Sutton and initially at Newcastle Les Ferdinand until he was sold the day before Shearer ruptured his ankle at Goodison Park in August last season. With Faustino Asprilla also allowed to leave, Shearer found himself alone up front on his return in January.

Ferguson's arrival means Shearer is closer to getting a forward line-up in which he feels he can prosper. Two weeks ago it was pressure from him and other senior players that saw Gillespie restored to the side.

On Saturday Shearer, Ferguson and Gillespie may all play against Wimbledon at St James' Park. Ferguson's purchase, it seems, is aiding Shearer's powers of recovery.

Rangers' backs to the wall



Cold Rod... Wallace, the Rangers scorer, fails to halt Parma's Argentinian international Juan Veron at Ibrox last night

PHOTOGRAPH: ALEX UNWELL

Uefa Cup third round, first leg: Rangers 1 Parma 1

Wallace snatches lifeline

Patrick Glenn

RANGERS will travel more in hope than in expectation when they make the trip to Northern Italy on Tuesday week. They showed extraordinary resilience to come from behind in this first leg — Rod Wallace equalised Abel Balbo's opener — but appear to have a huge task in the return.

A certain indicator of the difficulties confronting Rangers was that, for lengthy periods, Parma looked like the home side.

The Italians managed this illusion with pace, physical strength and skill, often denying Rangers a look at the ball, far less possession of it. It was no surprise to note that the visitors had caused terrible panic in the home penalty box long before Rangers contrived a response.

It arrived after 28 minutes and the medium-paced volley from Andrei Kanchelskis on the right edge of the penalty area was never going to trouble Gianluigi Buffon, who held it comfortably.

Antti Niemi, in the Rangers goal, had some thing more stinging to deal with when Hernan Crespo, the quick and venomous Argentinian striker, snaked down the inside-left channel, used his powerful shoulders to ease the taller Lorenzo Amoroso out of his path and hit a fierce low drive with his left foot. The Finnish goalkeeper was relieved to block with his knees.

But those supporters who followed the Italians to Glasgow would be concerned at their failure to take advantage of some of the openings they made during a long spell of territorial advantage. Juan Veron, for example, blasted wildly over after receiving Alvaro Bogosian's cut-back on the edge of the area.

Moreover, Mario Stanic, unchallenged 12 yards out and chesting down a precise centre from the left, lost his footing on the point of shooting.

That had been preceded by another of those alarming slips by Amoroso, allowing Veron to steal the ball just outside the area, but Ian Ferguson came back to clear the

danger with some clever sleight-of-foot.

Part of Rangers' problem was that they tried to play exactly as Alberto Malesani, the Parma coach, had expected. Dick Advocaat, the Rangers coach, had hinted at giving the Italians something to think about by producing a surprise.

That did not materialise, and Parma's well-rehearsed and unorthodox 3-4-1-2 formation was usually too slick for the Ibrox side. It was only through hard work that Rangers managed a fleeting flurry towards half-time, when Ian Ferguson's 35-yard drive had Buffon scrambling to save.

Advocaat did not make a tactical change until the 57th minute when the defender Sergio Porrini, was replaced by Gordon Durie.

By then, however, Rangers were a goal behind, thanks to the vision and precision of Veron and the deadliness of Crespo and Balbo.

Six minutes into the second half Veron split the home defence with a pass that zipped into the path of Crespo, who ran free as Niemi advanced.

The goalkeeper made a terrific save from Crespo's flick with the outside of his right foot, but the loose ball ran to Balbo, who had bolted forward in support, and he slid the ball in from six yards.

It said much for the home side's fortune that they were able to achieve parity 12 minutes later. Barry Ferguson's long, diagonal ball from the left was headed by Colin Hendry down to Rod Wallace; unmarked, the little striker

drove home a low right-foot shot from six yards.

● The Polish defender Jacek Bak headed home in the first half to give a 1-0 win over Belgium's Club Brugge in their home leg last night.

News: (4-4-2) Niemi, Porrini (Doris, 67 min), Stanic, Amoroso, Kanchelskis, B Ferguson, I Ferguson, Albarez, Wallace, Asprilla (Amoroso, 64), Pazzini (3-4-1-2) Buffon, Stanic, Thuram, Cannavaro, Stanic, Baggio, Bogosian, Benarrivo, Veron, Balbo, Crespo.

Referee: A Sarti (France).

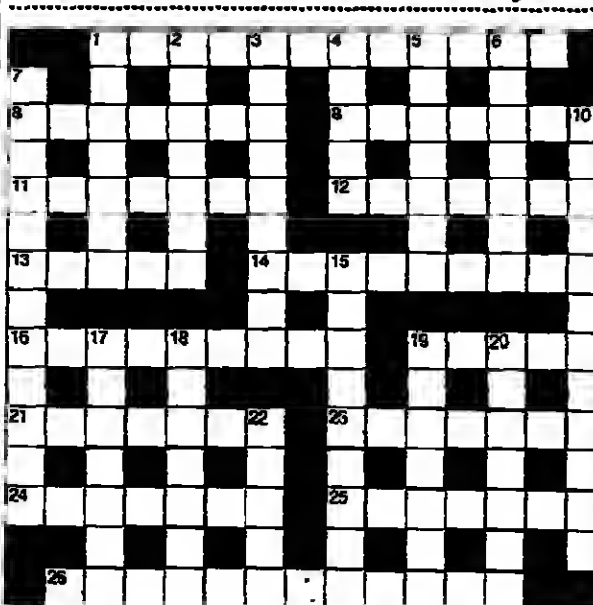


CALIFORNIA ZINFANDEL

Perfect with goats cheese tartlet and herb salad.



Guardian Crossword No 21,441



Across

- 1 "Unfinished" composer attracting fair share of debate (12)
- 8 Tantalising stuff to come across in the heather (7)
- 9 Byword from assertive part of speech by professional (7)
- 11 Carry out cute transplant in flower (7)

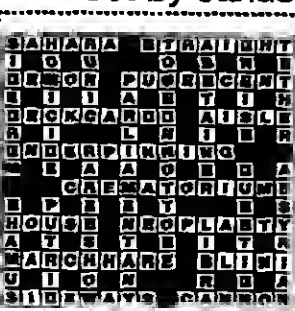
- 12 Trusting priest in storm (7)
- 13 Seen to turn round the bend and follow (5)
- 14 Pleased to have weight in bag (9)
- 16 Flower of dubious merit in Asia (9)
- 19 Short news item of vulgar ostentation (5)
- 21 Transferred child was reported unwell (7)

- 23 Kind of bloomer keeping sporting lodge in work (7)
- 24 Nothing to do with catching well? It may be catching (7)
- 25 In succession it has to follow outside (2,5)
- 26 Bag about a sonnet of a kind "To a Tasty Snack" (7,5,2,5)

Down

- 1 Cattlemen making deliveries to doctor (7)
- 2 Oriental is taken in by attraction of spare time (7)
- 3 Barges one associates with Biblical fishermen (9)
- 4 Sexual offender getting through to artist (5)
- 5 Casually drives model also backed by the French (7)
- 6 Herb running rings round Lear's daughter (7)
- 7 Decline of French production (12)
- 10 Improved drinks for wives (5,5)
- 15 Originally meant to have some in flat (9)
- 17 League leader's beef? (7)
- 18 Quite a number see novice meet celebrity on motorway (7)
- 19 "Flower" is a free translation (7)
- 20 Competitor for silver is not placed (7)
- 22 Hidden track turn (5)

Set by Janus



CROSSWORD SOLUTION 21,440

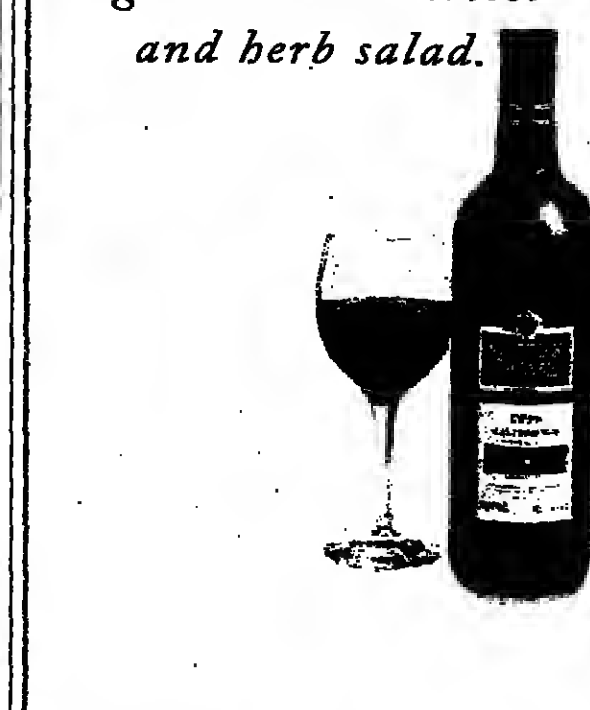
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CALIFORNIA ZINFANDEL

Perfect without goats cheese tartlet and herb salad.



SUTTER HOME CALIFORNIA WINES. They don't need food to make sense.

سكرا من الاربعين

010 011 011

Japanese boy-wonder Teddy Kumakawa rocked the dance world when he poached a group of the Royal Ballet's leading men for his company. At home he's a superstar, but has he got what it takes to make it on his own? Jonathan Watts and Judith Mackrell report

Pirates of pinnette

The only intrigues greater than those which take place on the stage of our national arts companies are those happening in the backstage world of the Royal Ballet. Just as few operas can compete with the Royal Opera House, so few ballets have the drama of this week's walkout at the Royal Ballet. The decision of five of its leading dancers to quit the Royal Ballet to form a new company with recently departed Japanese star, Teddy Kumakawa, has shaken the dance world to its core.

A rumour had been circulating for months that several of the Royal Ballet's leading dancers were planning to leave, but it was confirmed with an amazing speed. Five dancers, including the star, were to leave the Royal Ballet to form a new company with recently departed Japanese star, Teddy Kumakawa, has shaken the dance world to its core.

London's ballet aficionados pines next to the celebrity in the native Japan, however. He is incredibly popular, says Kumakawa, who writes for a leading dance magazine in Japan. "I conduct regular polls to find out what the Japanese dancers and audience think of me."

For the past, Kumakawa has been top for the past two years. In the most recent poll, he received twice as many votes as the runner-up. He has his own fan club, called Uta Akai, which was founded in May and is growing rapidly. Kumakawa has been a priority in ordering members to his self-out performances. Kumakawa is respected by many young dancers because he is not afraid to show his emotions. He is a very expressive dancer, and he has a very strong personality. He is a very expressive dancer, and he has a very strong personality.

Ballet's breakaway superstars

Adam Cooper
At 24, Cooper had reached the rank of Principal Dancer at the Royal Ballet but felt the home-grown talent was destined to be overlooked. On loan from the Royal Ballet, he gambled and signed up for an all-male Swan Lake with Matthew Bourne's Adventure in Motion. Pictures dance company, it paid off: the production, and Cooper, caused a sensation.

Michael Baryshnikov
Joining a long line of dancers to defect from the Royal Ballet, Baryshnikov was preparing to make his fifth appearance in a new role, the prince in the company's production of Swan Lake. In 1974, he danced with the American Ballet Theatre until he was asked to leave in 1978 — this time to A.B.T.'s rival, the New

York City Ballet. Under the direction of choreographer George Balanchine, Baryshnikov explored more adventurous roles and when, just a year later, he returned to A.B.T. as director, it was with a new, innovative approach to dance. He left and moved over to the Royal Ballet in 1980. Baryshnikov announced to his British colleagues that he was going on a short holiday to Spain, instead he boarded a plane to London and to the Royal Ballet, not returning until the summer. When he danced in Moscow, he was hailed as a musical dancer. During the years at the Royal Ballet, he developed a reputation as the most famous of all the current crop of classical dancers.

Les Carter-Morley
Some reports have suggested that when they dance in London they will be in a competition with the Royal Ballet. But insiders at the House are unfazed by this, partly because they agree that the London ballet scene can only profit by more activity, partly because they know there is no future over the House's redevelopment. "There's more to dance than a building and that's all this new theatre is going to be. It's the dancers that count." The argument and the gossip rumble on.

Les Carter-Morley
The departure also raises questions about the current negotiation of dancers' contracts, and numerous of the Royal Ballet's dancers are believed to be facing a year's delay along with the whole ballet world. There was talk of the whole ballet world being independent. While that has now been discounted, the fact that some of the dancers have been asked to accept lower wages and longer working hours means that there are still fears of others seeking work elsewhere. The gang of five dancers has been written up as some of the first sign of a general movement of talent. Where they go others may follow.

Les Carter-Morley
The prospects for Kumakawa's new company, meanwhile, are difficult to assess. The company's first production, the sketchy, informal Swan Lake, has been a success. But the company's first production, the sketchy, informal Swan Lake, has been a success. But the company's first production, the sketchy, informal Swan Lake, has been a success.

Les Carter-Morley
The prospects for Kumakawa's new company, meanwhile, are difficult to assess. The company's first production, the sketchy, informal Swan Lake, has been a success. But the company's first production, the sketchy, informal Swan Lake, has been a success. But the company's first production, the sketchy, informal Swan Lake, has been a success.

SPORTS ADMINISTRATION
THE ROLE: To provide administrative support and guidance to the members of our sports clubs.
THE PERSON: You require a sports administration degree, a minimum of two years' experience in sports administration, and a minimum of two years' experience in sports administration.
TO APPLY: The closing date for applications is 1st December 1998. For an application form and further particulars, please contact the Sports Administration Unit, 1st Floor, 100, The Quadrant, London W1A 1AA. Tel: 011 338 3381. Fax: 011 338 3382.

BRENT ADULT & COMMUNITY EDUCATION SERVICE
3 x 0.5 widening Participation Workers
(£7,302 - £10,043 per annum incl O/TW)
Our widening participation unit is seeking 3 staff to work on a part-time basis. The successful candidates will be responsible for the development and delivery of widening participation programmes. For further information, please contact: Ms. Jane Smith, Widening Participation Unit, Brent Adult & Community Education Service, 100, The Quadrant, London W1A 1AA. Tel: 011 338 3381. Fax: 011 338 3382.

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(6 month contract)
£14,646 (gross rate) based SW7
Academic Institute requires an efficient, customer-focused person with 18 months' personnel experience. Ideally in higher education or the public sector.
Contact: Kim-Marie or Paul
Tel: 0171 499 7751
Fax: 0171 499 7751
Lifeline

Stoke Mandeville Research Assistant posts
NATIONAL SPINAL INJURY CENTRE
Fixed term 1 year contract - £10,000 per year
The National Spinal Injuries Centre at Stoke Mandeville Hospital, UK has for many years been regarded as a centre of excellence in the provision of care to spinal cord injured patients from around the world. An opportunity has now arisen for the centre to appoint two research assistants to aid in the completion of a project involving patient records. Each successful candidate will be given the task of inputting 1,400 patient records onto the Centre's research database. Due to the nature of the project, applicants will need to hold a Medical Qualification. Experience in Spinal Cord Injuries is essential. It is essential that the successful candidate has a good knowledge of the English Language, including Medical Terminology. Applicants must be able to demonstrate good time management to ensure meeting deadlines and targets set within the one year contract.
The centre will provide training specifically for inputting onto the database. Previous knowledge and experience of computers would be useful.
In return, the National Spinal Injuries Centre offers a £10,000 research grant for a fixed term one year research contract. Ref. no. CS043
For further information please contact Catherine Dove, General Manager, National Spinal Injuries Centre on +44 (0) 1295 318620/318619 or Jim Harding, Personnel Planning Manager on +44 (0) 1295 318777.
For an application form, please contact: The Personnel Department, Stoke Mandeville Hospital NHS Trust, Mandeville Road, Stoke Mandeville, Aylesbury, Bucks HP8 7TR, UK. Tel: 01295 318620/318619 or Jim Harding, Personnel Planning Manager on +44 (0) 1295 318777.

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Contact: Kim-Marie or Paul
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Lifeline

Wandsworth Youth Offending Team Manager
£31,527 - £38,391 incl. (P06-7)
Plus performance related pay
Wandsworth Council in partnership with the police, probation service, health services and NHS is seeking a Youth Offending Team Manager. The Youth Offending Team Manager will be responsible for the management and delivery of the Youth Offending Team. The Youth Offending Team Manager will be responsible for the management and delivery of the Youth Offending Team. The Youth Offending Team Manager will be responsible for the management and delivery of the Youth Offending Team.

Wandsworth
The Wandsworth Youth Offending Team Manager will be responsible for the management and delivery of the Youth Offending Team. The Youth Offending Team Manager will be responsible for the management and delivery of the Youth Offending Team. The Youth Offending Team Manager will be responsible for the management and delivery of the Youth Offending Team.

Quick crossword No. 8914
Across
1 Don't move (4,5)
2 Adornable (4)
3 Sit down (4)
4 Survival (4,5)
5 Pack away (4)
6 Studious (5)
7 Very cold region (5)
8 Examine (5)
9 Go (5) - male sound (5)
10 Grass - several eggs (5)
11 Birth (5)
12 Pleon (5)
13 Ambus (4,5)
14 Exaggerate (4,5)
15 Prepare oneself (4,5)
Down
1 Whipping boy (5)
2 Duct (4)
3 Duct (4)
4 Caneloup (5)
5 Small hogged (5)
6 Pandion (5)
7 War (5) (5)
8 Fit to (5)
9 Versus (5)
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Steve Ball
ARCHAIC
JERRY AND THE FIVE
SANDPAPER
CHECK!
DO YOU GOES
ANY MORE OF
MUSSELS
IT'S A
MUSSELS
YES
PUSSELS
BOOM
DO YOU WANT TO
GOOOH!
BEHOLD UP!
SUGAR!
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14 Appointments

Tired of holding back the throttle?

Move in to top gear as Chief Executive Officer of the BMF

Whoever first spotted your interest you'll need all your enthusiasm and commitment to motorcycling to be appointed to the role of Chief Executive of the British Motorcyclists Federation.

The post will involve taking on the day to day running of our Head Office at Jack Villier House and playing a key role in helping to develop the future of the BMF on a membership basis.

Your areas of responsibility will be:

- Identifying and proposing ways of expanding BMF membership and the organisation
- Representing BMF to companies, organisations and individuals
- Implementing decisions of the Management Team
- Monitoring the performance of the various departments and of promotional activities

The postholder must be a motorcyclist and full time member of the BMF. In addition he or she must display a good knowledge and understanding of Company Law and good business practices, have good communication and people skills and be familiar with computer systems.

The post will involve meetings, functions and public events, working with existing staff and a diverse range of individual volunteers, and will entail some travel and 'out of hours/weekend' duties.

If you think you've got the energy, personality and commitment to make a success of the post and motivate those around you, then contact the Charity People Response Centre quoting reference BMF/6634/A on 0171 634 1004 or write to 38 Bedford Place, London WC1B 5EH by 18 December.



Oxfam has been working in the Balkans and the Southern Caucasus countries since 1993. Our future work in the Balkans will focus on people's right to choose, especially where they live. In the Caucasus this emphasis will be around issues of access to health and education. In both regions the programme work will be complemented by a strong advocacy component.

Regional Programme Development Co-ordinator - Caucasus

Based in Tbilisi (12 month contract)

Salary: £22,178 p.a. (taxable) or National Salary package (taxable) and learn from our programme work, to ensure an effective contribution to policy debates and advocacy work.

Ref: OS/GAU/PDC/PV/6.

Advocacy Officer - East Europe

Based in Sarajevo (6 month contract)

Salary: £22,178 p.a. (taxable)

a training programme for staff and partners to undertake advocacy work on issues of strategic concern.

Ref: OS/GAU/AV/PV/6.

Key competences for both posts:

- Experience of relief/development work
- Training and communications skills
- Analytical skills and understanding of advocacy work
- Knowledge of the relevant part of the region (Balkans or Caucasus) would be highly desirable.

Closing date for both jobs: 18 December 1999. Interview date for both jobs: 5/7 January 1999.

Social Policy Adviser

Eastern Europe/Farmer Soviet Union Based in Oxford (6 month contract)

Salary: £22,178 p.a. (taxable)

the Policy Department in Oxford on specific issues.

This is a reassignment. Applications will be processed upon receipt.

Ref: OS/GAU/SPV/PV/6.

For further details and an application form please send a large A4 (on International Human Resources, Oxfam, 274 Banbury Road, Oxford OX2 7DZ quoting the appropriate reference and job title.

Provided in 1999, Oxfam works with people regardless of race or religion with people regardless of sex or religion with people regardless of age or disability.

Oxfam GB is a member of Oxfam International. For further information visit: <http://www.oxfam.org.uk/>



Oxfam GB is striving to be an equal opportunity employer.

The Guardian Wednesday November 25 1999

BRIDGE

A Division of Bridge Information Systems, Inc.

BRIDGE NEWS continues to expand worldwide and now seeks reporters and editors for the following positions:

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Do you want to make a real difference?

The Shaftesbury Society is a national children's charity providing a range of services to people in need across the UK. We exist to enable people in great need to achieve security, self-worth and significance and through this to show Christian care in action. The Care and Community Services Division is unique in that it fulfils a dual role combining care services and community work.

Care & Community Services Director

£42,000 plus car

Do you possess the vision and flair to manage and lead this exciting and busy division within the society? Can you build on our continued success in providing care and community services to children and young people in need? Do you have the experience and commitment to ensure that our care and community services are of the highest quality? Do you have the ability to manage a team of dedicated staff and ensure that they are motivated and committed to the society's mission?

If you would like to learn more about how you could make a difference by enabling the Shaftesbury Society to care more, contact the Charity People Response Centre quoting reference SS/6793/A on 0171 634 1004 or write to 38 Bedford Place, London WC1B 5EH. Fax: 0171 323 1339. Closing date for receipt of applications: 14th December. Interviews will be held: 21st December.

Shaftesbury

Dependent on successful outcome of interview

Homeless Alliance

We are the national umbrella body for the sector. We lead, support and co-ordinate a membership of around 1000 homelessness organisations who provide services to around 30,000 homeless people every day.

Policy & Information Officer

Salary between £19,728 - £21,603 inc. LW 135 hour weekly plus 5% contributory pension.

We are seeking a Policy and Information Officer with a range of skills to help develop and improve our services to homelessness members and staff. You will have responsibility for co-ordinating and developing the policy content of our existing and new information service. On the Alliance, and our membership information and policy work, you will be responsible for the development of our policy work, ensuring that it is relevant and up-to-date. You will also be responsible for the development of our policy work, ensuring that it is relevant and up-to-date. You will also be responsible for the development of our policy work, ensuring that it is relevant and up-to-date.

For details contact: Charity People Response Centre quoting reference H/6793/A on 0171 634 1004 or write to 38 Bedford Place, London WC1B 5EH. Fax: 0171 323 1339. Closing date: 14th December 1999. Interview date: 14th January 1999.

The Guardian Wednesday November 25 1999

Pass notes

No 1309

Mark Fisher

Who? The architect commissioned to put on the three-daily live stage show in the central arena of Manot's Dome.

Hang on, what do architects know about performance art? We're talking "conceptual choreography" here. He's actually designing the stage set, as erect as his much experience in, having spent the last 20 years staging shows for the Rolling Stones, U2, Oasis, et al.

He's the one who thought nothing of whipping up on £18 million set for the Stones in 1995, the most expensive couple of ramps ever built, right? Guilty as charged, but he does more than just decide where to put Mick's stairway. He conceives the whole visual side of the show, and that doesn't come cheap.

Give me another example of his genius. Well, he came up with a 36-foot mirrored ball and a 60-foot cocktail stick for U2's PopMart tour.

Why? History hasn't revealed the answer to that one yet. Anyway, the band got stuck inside the ball at one of the shows, and the reaction was to go searching for a blowtorch.

Sound too like Spinal Tap to be true. So what's he knotted up for the Dome? A "modern morality play", apparently, recounting Adam and Eve fall from grace. It will star 200 people and cost £26 million, making it the biggest and most expensive show in British theatrical history. The 30-minute show will be the musical focal point of the Dome, with up to five performances a day at £180 a pop.

What actually happens? Well, the story is told through the eyes of mystical poet William Blake, who narrates as an acrobatic troupe dances around a Tree of Life. There are also some dark satanic mills.

"We were so moved, we cried," said one source.

Is this all a bit over the top? You should have seen what the original director Cameron Mackintosh wanted to do. His plans for 3,000 child actors and 200 horses would have necessitated the building of a very large on-site school and a stable block.

Do say: "He's dramatically loud!"

Don't say: "So how did they get out of the dome, then?"

Are you a Pass Master? <http://passnotes.guardian.co.uk>

PHOTOGRAPH: HERMAN SCHIERMAN

League games | that for 40 years

4 • Wednesday November 25 1998 The Guardian

The row over the extradition of Kurdish guerrilla leader Abdullah Ocalan has pitched Italy and Turkey into a diplomatic war. **Jonathan Rugman** reports

World's most wanted

It was the worst birthday present Europe could have given Turkey. While celebrating the country's 75th anniversary of the birth of the Turkish Republic, continued from custody the country's most wanted man, a rebellious Kurd who has worked Turkey harder than anyone to tear Turkey apart.

The man in question is Abdullah Ocalan (pronounced Oh-jahn), the 49-year-old leader of the Kurdistan Workers Party or PKK, one of the most violent guerrilla movements currently operating in Europe and the Middle East.

Despite a lengthy Turkish newspaper headlines such as "Hand him over we will not hang him", the Italian decided last week that they couldn't extradite the fugitive to Turkey (where Ocalan is charged with treason and murder) because Ankara kept the death penalty on its statute books.

And so Ocalan, accompanied by his 23-year-old girlfriend, is applying for political asylum and living under house arrest near Oslo outside Rome, protected by the Italian police from any Turkish assassins' bullet. Yet for Uncle Sam Ocalan calls himself (or Uncle Sam Ocalan calls him) a soldier to schoolteachers, not for critics, who have converged on Rome from all over Europe, to go home.

"I don't want our people to keep protesting and setting themselves on fire," he murmured after hearing that at least 20 of his followers had tried to set themselves alight. There are also hundreds of Kurds on hunger strike on Ocalan's behalf.

Meanwhile, the Turks are so furious to have lost Ocalan that thousands of people demonstrated outside the Italian embassy in Ankara over the weekend. Italian guards from clothing to cars have been set alight. And the Italian football team Juventus is so terrified of playing a match due in Istanbul this evening that the game has been postponed.

So who is Abdullah Ocalan, and why does he inspire such a mixture of hostility and devotion? The name "Ocalan" means "avenger" in Kurdish, and for the last 20 years the PKK leader has been fighting to avenge the plight of Turkey's approximately 12 million Kurds.

Born near Turkey's border with Syria in 1949, Ocalan is a man of many contradictions. As a young man, his hero was Turkey's first president, Atatürk, who — ironically enough — began the country's never-ending campaign of brutal Kurdish assimilation. Ocalan applied for a Turkish army scholarship but he got turned down.



He then attended the Turkish equivalent of Oxbridge before dropping out and joining up with other uprooted Kurdish students who had concluded that they didn't fit in with mainstream Turkish society. Inspired by the 1968 Paris unrest, Ocalan was recruited for handing out left-wing leaflets. After a spell in a Turkish prison, he emerged as a committed radical. Dave Spear, an inmate of Ocalan's at the time, described him as a Marxist-Leninist revolutionary equipped with a Kalashnikov, a half-faded notion of Marxist dialectics and a brilliant proficiency in mountaineering. It was my idea alone, Ocalan has said, of his decision to launch the guerrilla war for a Kurdish state. "At first, there were no sympathisers with it, even among the Kurds. The Turks thought Kurdistan was in the graveyard, that the Kurds had no history."

Twenty years on, there have been 30,000 deaths. Ocalan's fighters have targeted everyone from Turkish soldiers to schoolteachers, not forgetting Kurdish civilians caught between the two sides. Ocalan speaks far better Turkish than Kurdish and hasn't done any of the fighting himself, judging for the past 18 years in Syria and Lebanon, where according to Turkish intelligence, he spent weekends in Beirut with different girlfriends.

In the past month, Ocalan's world has been turned upside down. First, the Syrians threw him out after Turkey threatened military action against Damascus. Ocalan fled to Moscow, but the support of Russian MPs was not enough to guarantee him a safe home there.

So two weeks ago Ocalan flew into Rome with a false passport and despite being arrested by Italian police he managed to escape. While the plot is being considered, the German authorities are wondering whether to start extradition proceedings against him for involvement in murder, but few think any such move will prompt Germany's Kurdish population to riot. Ocalan's arrival in Europe has thrown the Kurdish question sharply into focus, with Turkey's NATO allies divided over the question of whether the PKK leader is a terrorist or a freedom fighter. Washington and London have decided there are two kinds of Kurds. The good Kurds are the fledgling Kurds in Iraq who have fought Saddam Hussein for a Kurdish state, while the bad Kurds are Ocalan's "terrorist" extremists, who have upset a Gulf War ally by fighting for a Kurdish state in Turkey.

It is a distinction that Ocalan and his supporters find understandably annoying. The US and Britain have turned a blind eye to massive Turkish military incursions across the Israeli border in pursuit of PKK fighters, while Ankara has faced no condemnation to address the PKK's human rights abuses.

While Ocalan's fate on European soil is decided, Italian nationalists have been advised to stay away from Turkey, and Italy's chances of winning from Ankara's lucrative tender to build 145 attack helicopters are now rated as nil. Italy's faced with the danger of enduring Turkey's eternal enmity, a seething Prime Minister Messias Yilmaz announced last week.

From his new home here in Europe, Ocalan is now trying to achieve what is almost certainly impossible: to make the transformation from outlawed extremist guerrilla to legitimate political representative of the Kurdish people. "I have come to Italy to open the way to a political settlement," Ocalan has announced on the PKK's website. "I am opposed to all terror, even if it originates from us. I am ready to do whatever I can so that it will be stopped immediately."

But although Italy's president and Germany's foreign minister have suggested that Ocalan's arrival in Europe could form the catalyst for action to solve Turkey's Kurdish crisis, it is obvious that Ankara will never negotiate with people it calls "terrorist PKK murderers". Shattering the PKK leader is far more likely to reduce a disaster in Turkey.

EU relations, as well as throwing into disarray any attempt to coordinate a united response to international terrorism. Ocalan lacks of a change of strategy in the Kurdish national movement, but it is very doubtful whether the PKK has permanently put its Kalashnikovs away. Deprived of a base in the Middle East, the Kurdish leader has been given no choice but to preach politics in Europe for the time being.

The PKK's longest guerrilla commander, nicknamed "Fingertise Zeki" after an accident involving a machine gun, has been caught and interpreted. The PKK has been decimated by conflict and will soon be forced by the weather to suspend the armed struggle, hibernating in freezing mountain hideouts until the snow melts next spring.

If Turkey's Kurds are looking for an interlocutor with Ankara, then the fiery revolutionary socialist Abdullah Ocalan is — sadly — not their man. And even if the current Kurdish Parliament in exile were to produce a more moderate leader, Turkish generals and politicians would rather put him behind bars than listen to what he has to say.

Jonathan Rugman's book, *Kurdan's Children: Turkey and the Kurds* is published by Cassell.

found public acceptance of its genetically modified foods falling dramatically, but with commentary by Peter Melchett of Greenpeace and Ann Foster from Monsanto



For

A recent report commissioned by Monsanto, the world's leading producer of genetically modified (GM) food, is a warning that there has been an ongoing collapse of support for biotechnology, and GM food. And it also reveals that, post the BSE crisis, consumers lack confidence in scientists, and regulatory bodies. Indeed, the report found the British public to be the most sceptical in Europe about scientific progress.

But, while this report makes sobering reading, does it really tell us anything new? And is it as damning as some of our critics would have us think? I don't believe so.

Opposition to GM food in Britain has been widely reported for over two years. Much of the discussion has focused on one outcome, "You're either for it or against it. And many have decided they are against."

But on what grounds? Sadly, much of the discussion about biotechnology has been dominated by scare-mongering and vilification, by irresponsible journalism, and by the likes of the "anti-GM" lobby. And there's nothing wrong with that. The GM lobby has been equally guilty of scare-mongering and vilification, by irresponsible journalism, and by the likes of the "pro-GM" lobby.

GM foods are some of the most highly regulated products on the market. GM foods are reviewed by over 20 independent scientific bodies, all of which approved it as safe to eat. And, in fact, before any GM food can go on sale in the UK, it is carefully scrutinised by our government departments and by several different independent bodies.

Unfortunately, until there is a proper, evidence-based discussion about biotechnology, the current polarisation of views will persist. This is why we decided to convene the presenters over the summer. Not because we thought it would change public opinion overnight.

Environmental benefits such as the 860,000 gallons of insecticide that American cotton growers have not had to spray over the past three years as a result of using GM cotton seeds. And health benefits, like helping people with diabetes in developing countries by growing a new GM oil seed rape that produces little or no aflatoxin, a precursor for vitamin A. At present it is estimated that 10 million children a year die of vitamin A deficiency.

A balance-based discussion is crucial if we are to properly explain these benefits. Of course, calm, rational discussion of the technology doesn't make good headlines. But it is the only way to sort out fact from fiction. In the meantime, we will continue to support moves to provide the consumer with more information on GM foods. And we welcome the Government's recent decision to set up a new ministerial group on biotechnology and genetic modification and an environmental stakeholders forum to discuss GM issues.

I believe this is the right direction for a proper discussion about biotechnology. And we will continue to be part of that discussion.

Ann Foster, Monsanto

Spot the difference... Differences in the arguments over GM food come down to whether the consumer will stomach it or not. Photograph by A. Green/WTSA

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